

Ham Chatter



Volume 37 Issue 8

An Official BARC, W4AMC, Publication

August 2003

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

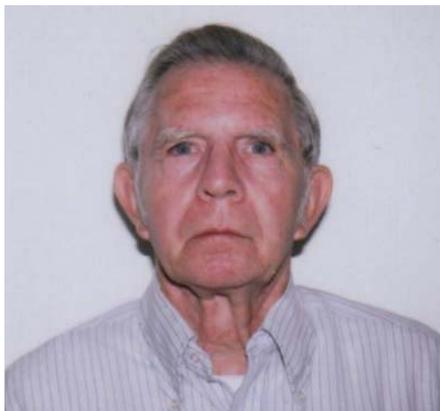
Contributing Editor: Murray Merner, K4MHM

Meet the Member Jim Hoover, KD4MTR

You might say Jim has had a life long career in electronics. He was born in Stanley, NC and graduated from high school in Rutherfordton, NC – both are near Charlotte. Upon graduation in 1951 he entered the Air Force and trained at the Ground Radio School in Scottsville, IL. Actually, he never left there becoming an instructor after he graduated and until his discharge in 1955.

After the AF Jim jumped right into the Electrical Engineering Program at NC State. He graduated from there in 1959, "just at the time they were moving from tubes to transistors." That surely must have been an exciting time – electronically and politically. His first job was with General Electric. The first six years of his career there was with defense system engineering specializing in the Atlas Guidance System. For about 1.5 years he was in Syracuse NY, then Biloxi, MS, followed by Vandenberg AFB in CA. The last five years were in the

(Continued on page 6)



Jim Hoover, KD4MTR

Welcome new members

Recently, the Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club has had several new members join the club. They are William Blount, **KG4ZVL**, Greenville; Brad Brechtelsbauer, **KG4ZVM**, Greenville; Daniel Drake, **KG4ISO**, Winterville; Kim-Hou Drake, **KG4ISP**, Winterville; William Finch, Jr., **KG4SZA**, Greenville; Bob Waddell, **KG4KSR**, Winterville; Bill Wheeler, **KG4ODX**, Blounts Creek; Bunny Wheeler, **KG4ODV**, Blounts Creek; and Theodore Zipes, **WD4AQX**, Greenville.

Several of them completed the BARC Amateur Radio classes for the Technician license. All club members introduce yourself to them and welcome them to the club.

BARC welcomes the new members and look forward to their participation in the club activities.

Nominating Committee appointed

The Nominating committee for the 2004 BARC officer elections was appointed by Dave LeMoine, KV4CN, at the July board meeting. Members appointed are Dave Langley, W4YDY, Mike Langley, KD4MTT, John McCoy, K4KBB, and Bernie Nobles, WA4MOK.

Nominations will be presented at the September meeting. Anyone interested in a club officer position, please inform the committee. Nominations will also be held from the floor at the September meeting. Now is the time to volunteer for a position!

Next Meeting August 12

The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club will have its next regular meeting on August 12 at 7:30 PM at VFW Post Home 7032 at 1108 Mumford Road in Greenville. The program will presented by Mike Langley, KD4MTT. He will cover operating procedures during hurricane emergencies. For those that recently received their Amateur Radio license, this is a very important program. In the 1999 flood, over 60 Amateur Radio operators were required for coverage for a week in Pitt County. All members, families and guests are invited to attend.

The next board meeting is set for August 26 at 7:30. The meeting is open to all members.

BARC Elmer Sessions Continue on August 14th

An Elmer Session was held on July 17th. John McCoy, K4KBB, led the class with Morse code training using the KOCH method with his laptop computer. Everyone is invited.

Brush up on your code, and take the code test the very next night at the VR Session. Our next Elmer Session is scheduled for Thursday, August 14th at 7:00 p.m. Thanks to Dr. Peter Van Houten, KG4WEZ, for the use of his building for our meeting place for the Elmer Sessions. Remember, everyone welcome, so come on down.. Taylor, KG4SNC

President's Corner

Dave, KV4CN

There is a lot going on in the amateur radio service. The WRC has dropped the Morse code requirement for access to frequencies below 30 MHz, the FCC is touting broadband data over power lines, 40 meters is being realigned, we have a new 60 meter band, legislation protecting our access to the radio spectrum is in congress, amateur radio is being included in the Homeland Security activity, and the list goes on.

From all of this comes some thoughts. Amateur radio is not dead or dying, but it is alive and well. Don't get caught-up in what the hobby was, focus on what the hobby can be. Use all the frequencies that you can. If we occupy them, then it is difficult to lose them. Operate only in the most professional manner and with good engineering sense. Keep amateur radio in front of the public. Try something new. Increase your operating skill and knowledge. Get youth involved. Build something. Make your opinion known to your congressional representative. Become an Elmer to someone. Take the ARRL Emergency Communications Course (it's free - successfully complete it and get your money back). Enough, you get the idea(s).

The club also needs your support. Not everyone can attend the monthly meeting due to work or other conflicts. But if you can, please come. We have some great programs lined up for the rest of the year. If you're reading this and are not a

(Continued on page 3)



**Happy
Birthday**

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

5 W4WAJ Al Joyner
14 KG4PZQ Scott LeMoine
19 KS4YF Paul Fletcher
20 KV4CN Dave LeMoine
25 KE4NQP Tom McLaughlin
30 KE4LQQ Chester Robins

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

Additional cosponsors sign aboard Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act

Additional cosponsors have signed aboard the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 2003. Identical versions of the measure, an ARRL initiative, have been introduced in both the US House and Senate. The House version, HR 713, now has 44 cosponsors, while the Senate version, S 537, has five. Now on their third try on Capitol Hill, both measures would require the FCC to provide "equivalent replacement spectrum" to Amateur Radio if the FCC reallocates primary amateur frequencies, reduces any secondary amateur allocations, or makes additional allocations within such bands that would substantially reduce their utility to amateurs.

Florida Republican Rep Michael Bilirakis filed the House version of the bill, HR 713, on February 12. The measure's most recent cosponsors include US representatives JD Hayworth (R-AZ), Paul Gillmor (R-OH), Greg Walden, WB7OCE, (R-OR), Rick Boucher (D-VA), John M. Spratt Jr (D-SC), Sherwood L. Boehlert (R-NY), Robert Wexler (D-FL), Mike McIntyre (D-NC), Ken Calvert, (R-CA), Joe Wilson (R-SC), John T. Doolittle (R-CA), Neil Abercrombie (D-HI) and Frank Pallone Jr (D-NJ).

Idaho Sen Michael Crapo introduced the Senate version of the bill on March 6. Original cosponsors were senators Daniel Akaka (D-HI) and Larry Craig (R-ID). Other S 537 cosponsors are US senators Conrad Burns (R-MT), Sen Susan M. Collins (R-ME) and Max Baucus (D-MT). Burns chairs the Senate Communications Subcommittee.

ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, continues to encourage ARRL members to urge their senators and representatives and to cosponsor the bills,

which lends support to legislation while it's in committee. The House bill has been referred to the Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet; the Senate bill will be considered by the Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee. According to Haynie, letters and e-mails are the key to getting legislation passed.

A sample letter is available on the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/govrelations/arspa.html>>. Those writing their lawmakers are asked to copy their correspondence to the League via e-mail <specbill03@arrl.org>.

On June 11, Haynie testified on Capitol Hill on behalf of HR 713. He was the last of 11 scheduled witnesses to speak during the Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet hearing, "The Spectrum Needs of Our Nation's First Responders." Haynie told the subcommittee that hams have lost more than 100 MHz of VHF and UHF spectrum over the past 15 years and that another nearly 360 MHz of VHF and UHF spectrum "has been substantially compromised."

The text of HR 713 and S 537 is available via the Thomas Web site <<http://thomas.loc.gov/>>. - via ARRL Letter Online 7/18/03

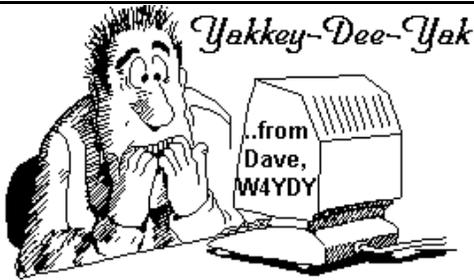
In This Issue

<i>Meet the Member - KD4MTR</i>	1
<i>President's Corner, KV4CN</i>	2
<i>Federal preemption over RF matters</i>	3
<i>FCC warns trucking firms</i>	4
<i>Morse requirement?</i>	4
<i>BPL is a Pandora's Box</i>	5
<i>Next BARC VE Session - August 15</i>	5
<i>See you on 60 meters!</i>	6
<i>New Vanity Fee</i>	7
<i>7-MHz realignment</i>	7
<i>BARC Meeting Minutes</i>	8
<i>BARC Board Minutes</i>	8
<i>New Technician Class to start</i>	9
<i>Ads</i>	9
<i>Nets</i>	9

Well Wishes

Thoughts and Prayers go out to the following:

Juanita Humbles, KE4JWK
Wayne Ross, WD4JPQ
Jeff Hardee, K4RJH



FCC opinion bolsters Federal preemption over RF interference matters

An FCC Memorandum Opinion and Order (MO&O) released earlier this month bolsters the doctrine of federal preemption over local efforts to regulate radio frequency interference (RFI). The ARRL had commented in the proceeding, WT Docket 02-100, which could have implications for Amateur Radio. The pro-

ceeding stemmed from efforts by Anne Arundel County, Maryland, to require telecommunication service providers to certify their facilities would not interfere with the county's public safety communication system.

"We find that federal law preempts provisions of the Anne Arundel County, Maryland, zoning ordinances involving radio frequency interference," the FCC declared in granting Cingular Wireless' Petition for a declaratory ruling and denying the county's motion to dismiss. ARRL had supported

Cingular's position in the proceeding. Cingular asserted in its petition that Congress had established a "pervasive regulatory scheme" that grants the FCC exclusive jurisdiction to regulate RFI, and that the Anne Arundel zoning amendments conflicted with the Commission's rules regarding resolution of RFI cases. The FCC also said it expected all parties to continue cooperating to resolve remaining RFI issues.

Anne Arundel County in January 2002 adopted zoning amendments requiring commercial telecommunication providers to demonstrate that their facilities would not degrade or interfere with the public safety radio system. The amended ordinance gave the county the authority to revoke a zoning certificate if such interference or degradation occurred or if telecommunication service providers did not certify their systems to be in compliance with FCC standards and guidelines.

The FCC said it found that the county's zoning provisions went beyond traditional zoning functions and attempted to regulate RFI. The FCC Memorandum Opinion and Order is available on the FCC Web site <http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-03-2196A1.doc>. - via ARRL Letter Online 7/18/03

The August program will be about operating in hurricane emergency situations and it will be presented by Mike Langley, KD4MTT. More hurricanes have developed in the Atlantic Ocean during the last two weeks of August than any other time in history since they have been tracked. September and October are also very active. Look at the statement on the front and back of Ham Chatter. It was stated by Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, FCC Special Counsel, at the Dayton Ham Convention in 2002. Amateur Radio is the only form of communication that is fail-safe. Cell phones are almost a complete failure because of overload. Telephones are either out of service or jammed from overload. Government agency radios can mostly only communicate internally and not agency to agency.

That's where Amateur Radio comes to the rescue. Antennas can be put up quickly (Field Day is good practice) and many frequencies are available for the most reliable communication. But to be most efficient, it takes some knowledge and practice of procedures to have reliable communication of emergency messages. Mike will discuss some of the procedures for emergency communications.

In the 1999 flood that resulted from a couple of hurricanes including Floyd, over 60 operators were required to cover the operations at the EOC, the Red Cross, the hospital, the Baptist church where food was prepared for the shelters, and all the schools that were used for shelters. Some assisted for the whole

President's Corner

(Continued from page 2)

member, please join. If you let your membership lapse, please rejoin.

It's approaching the time for establishing a slate of new club officers. The time commitment is minimal, but the reward is great. If you have an interest in becoming a club officer, please let one of the existing officers or member of the nominating committee know. Again, thanks for your support of the club and the hobby.

See you at the meeting!

73, Dave K4V4CN

week and others a few days or hours. Everyone was needed so a few would not have to do all the work.

Be sure to come out to the meeting because it should be a very educational program that all, old timers and new hams alike, can benefit - W4YDY



PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE BRIGHTLEAF ARC, P. O. BOX 8387, GREENVILLE, NC 27835 □ NON COPYRIGHT MATERIAL CONTAINED HEREIN MAY BE REPRINTED WITHOUT PRIOR PERMISSION WITH CREDIT GIVEN TO THIS PUBLICATION □ PRESIDENT - DAVID LEMOINE, KV4CN, 353-8523 □ FIRST V. PRESIDENT - BYRON HIGHLAND, K4BMH, 753-2895 □ SECOND V. PRESIDENT - JEFF HARDEE, K4HMF, 830-6879 □ SECRETARY - TAYLOR MILLAR, KG4SNC, 756-2192 □ TREASURER - JOHN McCOY, K4KBB, 758-1719 □ BOARD MEMBER - MIKE LANGLEY, KD4MTT, 752-4356 □ BOARD MEMBER - RICHARD CAMPBELL, KG4SNE, 758-1244 □ PUBLIC RELATIONS - PAT WILLIAMS, KG4NSC, 752-9281 □ W4AMC/W4VOA TRUSTEE, TOM PARSONS, W4TEP, 355-2815 □ VE LAISON, TOM PARSONS, W4TEP, 355-2815 □ HAM CHATTER & WEB SITE EDITOR - DAVE LANGLEY, W4YDY, 321-2525 □ CONTRIBUTING EDITOR - MURRAY MERNER, K4MHM, 757-3429 □ EMAIL ADDRESSES ON BARC WEB SITE □ OPINIONS BY WRITERS MAY NOT NECESSARILY BE THAT OF THE BARC. □ CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTABLE.

FCC Warns Trucking Firms about Alleged Unlicensed 10-Meter Operation Kinston, NC firm warned



NEWINGTON, CT, Jul 28, 2003--The FCC Enforcement Bureau has sent Warning Notice letters to three highway transportation firms asserting that drivers of some of their vehicles may have transmitted without a license on 10 meters. All three notices allege the unlicensed operations took place July 8 on Interstate highways in South Carolina.

Letters went out July 14 from FCC Special Counsel Riley Hollingsworth to Jolly Roger Capital Ltd of Columbia, South Carolina, Tidewater Transit Company of Kinston, North Carolina, and Shuford Lumber of Marion, North Carolina. He warned all three firms that operation of radio transmitting equipment without a license could lead to fines of up to \$10,000, equipment seizure and even imprisonment.

Hollingsworth cited "information before the Commission" that spelled out each vehicle's highway location, license plate and--in two instances--operating frequency (28.085 MHz). One of the Warning Notice letters also identified the make and year of the vehicle. The alleged offenses were said to have occurred when the vehicles were under way on Interstate 77 or Interstate 20 in South Carolina.

Hollingsworth asked all three firms to get in touch with him to discuss the allegations.

In other enforcement news, the FCC warned two General class operators in Virginia against operating outside their privileges on 20 meters. Hollingsworth wrote Cody A. Stinson, KG4YKL, and Randall K. Stinson, KG4YKM, of Lebanon regarding alleged operation June 20 on 14.210 MHz--a frequency that's outside the General phone band. Hollingsworth cautioned the licensees that such operation could lead to revocation proceedings and fines and jeopardize attempts to upgrade. He asked both operators to contact him.

The FCC also forwarded a complaint to a New Jersey licensee that a repeater bearing her call sign on 147.775 MHz "often fails to identify, drifts and often generates noise and locks into the transmit mode." The complaint further alleged that the repeater was no longer coordinated. Hollingsworth requested that

Elizabeth I. Olsen, N2CTD, of Farmingdale review the complaint, indicate what steps she was taking to verify the repeater's proper operation and respond to a series of questions regarding the repeater.

Hollingsworth also notified Nibia M. Cedeno, ex-N2GRI, of Hollywood, Florida, that the FCC had canceled her General class Amateur Radio license after she failed to appear for reexamination on or before June 30, 2003, as requested last April.

Amateur Radio-related FCC Enforcement Bureau correspondence is available on the ARRL Web site at http://www.arrl.org/news/enforcement_logs/.

Letter to Kinston firm from FCC July 14, 2003

Tidewater Transit Company, Inc.
HWY 70W
Kinston, NC 28505

SUBJECT: WARNING NOTICE-- UNLICENSED RADIO OPERATION

Dear Sir:

Information before the Commission indicates that your vehicle, a 2002 Volvo truck bearing North Carolina license plate LK 4130, was the source of radio transmissions on the Ten Meter Amateur Radio band on July 8, 2003 on Interstate 20 near Lexington, SC.

Please be advised that operation of radio transmitting equipment without a license is a violation of Section 301 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. Section 301, and will subject you to fine or imprisonment, as well as an *in rem* seizure of any non-certified radio transmitting equipment, in cooperation with the United States Attorney for your jurisdiction. **Monetary forfeitures normally range from \$7,500 to \$10,000.**

You are requested to contact me at 717-338-2502 to discuss this matter.

CC: FCC South Central Region

Via ARRL Internet Site

What to do about the Morse requirement Post-WRC-03

World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03) made optional the requirement to prove the ability to send and receive Morse code to operate below 30 MHz. While Morse exam elements remain on the books in the US, Canada and elsewhere, Switzerland and the United Kingdom have apparently become the first countries to delete their Morse requirements for HF operation. In the US, however, the FCC is unlikely to act on its own motion to simply make the Morse testing requirement go away.

"There isn't an exception in the Administrative Procedures Act that I am aware of that would permit the Commission to issue an administrative fiat changing the license structure or exam-requirement rules," said an FCC staffer who's closely involved with Amateur Service rules. Other countries can do this because they have different laws and procedures, the FCC staff member observed, adding that even if it could be done here, "that still leaves unanswered the fundamental question: What do you want the new rules to be?"

In its December 1999 Report and Order restructuring Amateur Radio licensing, the FCC stopped short of revising the rules to sunset the Morse requirement automatically if WRC-03 deleted Morse proficiency from the international Radio Regulations. The FCC also acknowledged "a clear dichotomy of viewpoints" on the Morse code issue within the amateur community.

The ARRL's policy for several years has been that Morse should be retained as a testing element in the US. At its July 18-19 meeting in Connecticut, however, the Board said it would solicit and review input from members on the Morse testing requirement and other possible revisions to Part 97 arising from WRC-03.

The first move on the Morse code question in the US is for someone to file a Petition for Rule Making with the FCC seeking a rule change. No Code In-

(Continued on page 6)

“BPL is a Pandora's box of unprecedented proportion,” ARRL tells FCC



Citing the potential for interference to and from Amateur Radio, the ARRL has called on the FCC to "take no steps" to permit Broadband over Power Line (BPL)--a form of power line carrier (PLC) technology. In response to the FCC's BPL Notice of Inquiry (NOI) published May 23, the League this week filed a 120-page response--including studies. The NOI, which asked how the FCC should regulate the delivery of broadband services to homes and businesses using electrical wiring to conduct high-speed digital signals, attracted some 1900 comments--many from the amateur community--by the July 7 comment deadline.

"ARRL is unwilling to have the Amateur Service gored with the double-edged sword of an incompatible service that will at once (1) cause widespread interference, and (2) preclude any future changes in the amateur HF allocations," the ARRL said. The League said that based on "diligent and exhaustive research," it's concluded that BPL must avoid any and all amateur MF, HF and VHF allocations without exception.

The League said that while it's aware that current Part 15 rules permit BPL, its interference potential remains untested and unrealized, since no access

BPL systems are in operation. BPL proponents would prefer that the FCC authorize even higher power levels for such systems, however.

"BPL is a Pandora's Box of unprecedented proportions," the ARRL declared. It asked the FCC to modify its Part 15 rules to prevent interference to users of the HF and low-VHF spectrum from the start and "to prevent consumers' reliance on BPL as an interference-free broadband delivery system."

Studies appended to the League's comments suggest received signal levels of BPL broadband noise at typical amateur stations would be anywhere from 34 dB to 65 dB higher than typical ambient noise levels in the worst-case situations. "BPL cannot be deployed using amateur allocations in the MF, HF and VHF bands without severely high interference potential," the ARRL reiterated.

Electric utility companies would operate many, if not most, BPL systems. ARRL pointed out that some power companies have demonstrated a less-than-stellar record of cooperation in resolving complaints of power line noise to hams. "It is a very substantial problem now for the Amateur Service, without the addition of BPL to the mix," the League said.

The ARRL concluded by urging the FCC to ensure that BPL "is not permitted to operate in or near any Amateur

Radio allocations" and that any future changes in ham allocations would "trigger retroactive modifications to BPL facilities" to avoid amateur frequencies.

ARRL's comments and additional information are available on the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/et03-104/>>.

The ARRL has initiated an important Spectrum Defense Fund campaign to support activities to educate government officials on the potential threat that BPL poses to Amateur Radio. To find out more, or to support ARRL's efforts in this area, visit the ARRL's secure BPL Web site <<https://www.arrl.org/forms/development/donations/bpl/>> - via *ARRL Letter Online 7/11/03*



Next VE Session

The next Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club VE session will be held on **August 15**. 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. w4tep@arrl.net. 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 \$12.00
- ◆ Proof of Tech Plus if before 3/21/87 and doing paper upgrade to General.

Email addresses

Please send me your new addresses so I can update my records. I need the correct addresses to notify members when the latest *Ham Chatter* goes online, important notifications and update the email roster on the web site. - *W4YDY*

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.

Meet the Member Jim Hoover, KD4MTR

(Continued from page 1)

Communication Production Dept in Lynchburg, VA as a design engineer for two-way radio.

After GE, he had a one year stint at Electric Storage Battery in Raleigh, NC. They made industrial battery chargers. In 1966 Jim became the Electronics Dept. Chairperson and instructor at what is now Pitt Community College. His tenure was 22 years. Then he worked five years at Voice of America in Greenville as a Transmitter Technician until his retirement in 1993. Wouldn't you agree that's a life long career in electronics?

Jim got is Technician license in

1992 after taking a class of Br. Simon Jaworski, KQ2V (as most of us did); he recently renewed his license. He stayed on two meters and has Icom and Radio Shack two meter rigs which stay in his work shed where he monitors the radios using a 5/8 MFJ antenna or in his vehicle. I encouraged him to get on the Monday night BARC net. His club activities included going to the meetings and Field Day. He has had some difficulty making the meetings recently. He doesn't like to drive at night and he has taken two series of chemotherapy.

His major interest is woodworking. He has his own portable sawmill. He has built his own house, an addition and a storage shed. He also likes to tinker with his own small engines – he

has take the small engine repair course at PCC a couple of times.

Jim is married to Iris and they have a daughter who graduated from NCSU in textiles and is working with Burlington Industries. She is married with one child.

Jim has been in electronics since he graduated from high school in 1951 and has been a ham for ten years. His medical conditions have limited his activities in BARC lately, but he continues to support BARC. He is active in other aspects of his life. Jim, we're glad to see you're doing better and we'd like to see you at the meetings and other events. If we can help you with that please let us know – don't forget the BARC net.

K4MHM

What to do about the Morse requirement Post-WRC-03

(Continued from page 4)

international (NCI) <<http://www.nocode.org/>> has spearheaded the battle to eliminate the Morse requirement and would be a likely organization to file such a petition. NCI Executive Director Carl Stevenson, WK3C, said late last week that NCI was still studying the matter and had not yet made a final decision on a plan of action. An ARRL member, Stevenson says he hopes personally that the League would join NCI in actively encouraging the FCC to eliminate the Morse exam element as soon as possible.

Hopes for a quick resolution to the Morse question could be wishful thinking, however. Once a petition to drop the Morse exam element is filed, the FCC will put it on "public notice" by assigning an RM number and soliciting comments. If more than one such petition is filed, the FCC is obliged to invite comments on each. When that process is completed, the FCC may determine that a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) is in order. The Commission at that point could incorporate all Morse-related rule making petitions into a single proceeding. The NPRM would get a docket number, and the comment process would begin anew.

Further complicating and extending the process, the FCC most likely would incorporate other pending Amateur Radio-related issues into the same NPRM. At the end of the comment and reply comment periods, the FCC would issue a Report and Order (R&O) that includes its decision on the Morse code requirement and any other issues incorporated into the proceeding. The whole process could take a couple of years, perhaps longer.

Ratification of the WRC-03 Final Acts by the US Senate does not appear to be necessary before the FCC can act or begin the rule making process. Following World Administrative Conference 1979 (WARC-79) which resulted in three new HF amateur bands, the FCC acted in 1982, prior to Senate ratification of the conference's Final Acts, not only to initiate the rule making process but to give amateurs limited access to 30 meters.

Radio Amateurs of Canada has advised hams in that country that the Morse qualification requirement remains in effect for operation below 30 MHz, "pending a review by Industry Canada of the impact of the WRC-2003 regulatory changes on the Canadian radio regulations, policies and procedures." - *Via ARRL Letter Online 7/25/03*

See you on 60! Five channels now open for use

US amateurs had been counting down the weeks, days and hours. Now, the five new 60-meter "channel center" frequencies--5332, 5348, 5368, 5373 and 5405 kHz--are available! Given the constraints imposed on the five lightly used government frequencies, ARRL advises members to demonstrate their best operating behavior and to use common sense when operating under the new rules. The channelized domestic, secondary allocation at 5 MHz marks the first new HF amateur band since the 1980s.

The only legal mode is upper sideband voice (USB), with a maximum bandwidth of 2.8 kHz (centered within each channel). On July 3, the first day the band was available, hundreds of operators opened up on one of the channels to grab their first contacts. The friendly free-for-all took place on a fairly level playing field, however, since the FCC has imposed a 50 W effective radiated power (ERP) limit. The new FCC rules--§97.303(s)--define this as the transmitter output in peak envelope power (PEP) multiplied by antenna gain relative to a half-wave dipole or the equivalent calculation in decibels. The Commission presumes that a half-wave dipole on the 5 MHz allocation has a gain of 0 dBd.

Licenseses using antennas other than a half-wave dipole must maintain in their station records either manufacturer

(Continued on page 9)

FCC upholds vanity fee policy, sets new fee start date

The FCC says the new, higher Amateur Radio vanity call sign regulatory fee of \$16.30 for the 10-year license term will go into effect September 9. Until then, applicants for amateur vanity call signs will continue to pay the current \$14.50 fee per vanity application. The FCC expects to collect close to \$160,000 from 9800 Amateur Radio vanity call sign applicants during Fiscal Year 2003. That's up by almost \$30,000 and 800 applications from FY2002.

In releasing its annual Report and Order on the assessment and collection of regulatory fees for FY2003, the FCC responded at some length to comments filed from the amateur community. Some commenters had questioned the need for the fee, the requirement to pay it when renewing a vanity call sign and why refunds were not automatic.

Telecommunications Act provisions governing regulatory fee assessment cover applications for vanity call signs, which, the FCC said, "are voluntarily requested by licensees" and are "a value-added benefit not afforded to all licensees." Assessment of a regulatory fee to cover the FCC's processing and enforcement costs to make the vanity call sign service available is reasonable, the Commission concluded.

The FCC said its current policy of assessing "a nominal fee" at the time of initial application and at each renewal also allows greater access to vanity call signs. "A high one-time-only fee would be cost prohibitive for many entities wishing to obtain a vanity call sign," the Commission said. The Commission also said it incurs costs to manage each vanity call sign throughout its existence, not just in the first 10 years.

Regarding refunds due when the FCC denies an application, the FCC said its rules require a written request from applicants before it can process refunds of regulatory fees. "The written request serves as documentation when cross-referencing each unique file number that may be entitled to a refund," the FCC added.

Radio history is made at WRC-03 with 7-MHz realignment compromise

In a historic move, delegates to World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03) agreed to move broadcasters out of 7100 to 7200 kHz in Regions 1 and 3 to make room for the Amateur Service. International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) Secretary--and ARRL CEO--David Sumner, K1ZZ, said the "carefully crafted compromise" calls for broadcasters to vacate 7100 to 7200 kHz by March 29, 2009. Amateurs in the US and the rest of Region 2 will continue to enjoy the 7000 to 7300 kHz band they now have, and eventually with greatly reduced broadcasting interference.

The compromise marked the first time in the history of internationally coordinated radio spectrum allocation that an HF broadcasting band was shifted to accommodate the needs of another ser-

vice. It cuts in half the incompatibility between amateur and broadcasting use of the 7 MHz band and doubles the 40-meter spectrum available to amateurs in Regions 1 and 3.

While the result falls short of the IARU's goal of a 300-kHz worldwide exclusive band for amateurs, the cooperation of broadcasters, opposing delegates and many others was required to make a positive step for ham radio. Spectrum between 4 and 10 MHz is on the agenda for WRC-07, but the next conference will not consider further changes to 7000-7200 kHz.

As expected, WRC-03 also dropped the international Morse code requirement for HF access, leaving individual countries to decide if they want to retain a code proficiency requirement (Switzerland already has dropped the requirement). In addition, the conference adopted a number of improvements to other international regulations for the Amateur Service. Delegates also agreed to allow a secondary allocation for satellite borne synthetic aperture radars at 70 cm and, in an Article 19 change, made amateur call sign assignments more flexible.

Michael Owen, VK3KI, a member of the IARU team at Geneva, has provided a detailed explanation of Article 25 changes in the article "New Regulations for the Amateur Services." It's available on the IARU Web site <<http://www.iau.org/rel030703att3.html>>.

More than 2600 delegates and other participants attended the four-week-long conference, chaired by Dr Veena Rawat of Canada. For WRC-03, the IARU fielded its largest team of observers at an ITU conference in more than a decade. In addition to Sumner and Owen, the team--led by IARU President Larry Price, W4RA--included Bob Jones, VE7RWJ; Wojciech Nietyksza, SP5FM, and Ken Pulfer, VE3PU. More than a dozen other amateurs were present on national delegations or in other roles for the IARU, its regional organizations and member-societies.

Changes to Articles 19 and 25 took effect on July 5, 2003. In general, the other Final Acts take effect on January 1, 2005. - via ARRL Letter Online 7/11/03



The FCC said the documentation was particularly important in the case of Amateur Radio vanity applications, "because filing trends indicate that some applicants file several vanity call sign applications per day for several days on end." Requiring a written request makes it easier to certify "which fees are to be refunded for which dismissed applications," the Commission said. In addition, those processing applications in FCC bureaus and offices don't have the authority to issue refunds without proper documentation.

A copy of the Report and Order is available on the FCC Web site <http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-03-184A1.doc>. - via ARRL Letter Online 8/1/03

BARC Monthly Minutes - July 2003

BARC Monthly Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, July 8, 2003
7:30 pm at the VFW hall

Byron Highland, K4BMH, called the meeting to order, and asked everyone to introduce themselves with their name, call letters, and city location.

TREASURER'S REPORT: John McCoy, K4KBB, reported on several updates of funds received while he was on vacation. He also reported that a donation payment would be made to QSL Net.

HEALTH AND WELFARE: Ken, N8FF, reported that Juanita Humbles, KE4JWK, was not feeling well. Juanita is accepting phone calls, he reported. Bernie Nobles, WA4MOK, reported that Wayne Ross, WD4JPQ, is at home and very weak. Bernie said to give him a call, and let him know we are thinking about him.

EQUIPMENT: Byron Highland, K4BMH, reported ordering the new power supply for the club. Mike Langley, KD4MTT, said that tables that were purchased for the club have worked out well. He reported on radio use at Field Day. It was also mentioned that a band pass filter may be needed for 75-80 meters due to interference during Field Day. It was also reported that the propagation was not good, and also what a great job Richard,

KG4SNE did in chairing the event. Dean also did a good job with the chickens, the food was delicious.

PUBLICITY: Pat Williams, KG4NSC, reported that the Daily Reflector put our meeting announcement in Sunday's newspaper, but not today's paper.

VE SESSIONS: Tom Parsons, W4TEP, reported that nine people took tests at the VE session held on June 20th at St. Peter's School on 5th Street. He reported one person upgrading to Amateur Extra, three to General, and five made Technician. The next VE Session will be August 15th, he reported.

MURRAY MERNER-TECHNICIAN CLASSES: The club voted to purchase 10 copies of "Now You Are Talking" from ARRL for the new class starting in September.

ELMER SESSIONS REVIEW: & ARES: Bernie Nobles, WA4MOK, told about the contact with John McCoy while he was in Canada. The code class is progressing, and the next Elmer Session will be Thursday, June 17th at 7 p.m.. He also reported on an ARES meeting just held in Kinston. A drill is to be held in August, and more information will follow about this.

FIELD DAY PROGRAM: Richard Campbell, KG4SNE, Chairman of the Field Day Event reported that we had

about 600 contacts total. He said everyone did a great job which made for a successful Field Day.

MOBILE RADIO CHECK AND PICNIC: Byron Highland, K4BMH, led a discussion on time and a place for this event. It was mentioned having it after cooler weather starts. September 27th at 10 a.m. till 3 p.m. was mentioned as a tentative date with a lunch meal. Having it at Tom Parson's house was mentioned as one possible location for this event along with a possible Grifton location.

MEETING PROGRAMS: The two programs for this meeting were a slide show of John McCoy's trip to Labrador, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, and Bernie Nobles discussing emergency antennas. He displayed a Screwdriver Antenna with a tripod, an Icom 706, and microphone switches.

BOARD MEETING: The next board Meeting will be on July 29th at 7:30 pm at Mike's Marine on Highway 33 east. All members are invited to all board meetings.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business, the meeting adjourned about 9:23 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Taylor Millar, KG4SNC

BARC Board Minutes - July 2003

BARC Board Meeting: July 29, 2003

Attending: Dave LeMoine, KV4CN, John McCoy, K4KBB, Mike Langley, KD4MTT, Pat Williams, KG4NSC; Dave Langley, W4YDY, Taylor Millar, KG4SNC, Richard Campbell, KG4SNE, Murray Merner, K4MHM, Paul Fletcher, KS4YF.

TREASURER REPORT: John McCoy, K4KBB, reported on the income received during the month plus expenses. He also reported on some of the members that have not renewed their membership yet, plus new members that have recently joined BARC.

Also mentioned was recognizing new members at our meetings.

HEALTH & WELFARE: It was re-

ported that Wayne Ross, WD4JPQ, was looking good and would be returning home from the hospital. It was mentioned that Jeff Hardee, K4RJH, was having a hearing problem and sinus infection.

EQUIPMENT: Byron Highland, K4BMH, was reported to be ordering a power supply for the new ICOM 706 radio just purchased for the club.

PUBLICITY: Pat Williams, KG4NSC, told about a new Food Lion rebate program using the MVP Card which would be a great fund raiser for our club.

NEW TECHNICIAN CLASS: Murray Merner, K4MHM, reported that the new "Now You Are Talking" books have been purchased for the new class scheduled to start in September. These will be sold to

new class members. It was also mentioned running a small ad in the Daily Reflector and the Carolina Bargain Trader.

ELMER SESSION CLASSES: John McCoy, K4KBB reported that the next Elmer Session is scheduled for August 14th at 7:00 p.m. This will be the last code session before the VE Session on August 15th. Everyone is welcomed to brush up on their code.

NEW BUSINESS: Meeting content was discussed. Mike Langley, KD4MTT, mentioned having a hurricane preparedness session in August before the hurricane season hits. It was mentioned that elections will be held at the November meeting. Nominating committee mem-

(Continued on page 9)

BARC Board Meeting Minutes

(Continued from page 8)

bers appointed are Dave Langley, W4YDY, Mike Langley, KD4MTT, John McCoy, K4KBB, and Bernie Nobles, WA4MOK. It was mentioned having a six month rotation of the net control.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Taylor Millar, KG4SNC

See you on 60!

(Continued from page 6)

data on the antenna gain or calculations of the antenna gain. The bottom line for most hams will be to erect a wire dipole, set their transmitter to 50 W PEP output and enjoy the new band.

For more information, see the 60-Meter FAQs posted on the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/faq.html>>.

Amateurs in the US and the United Kingdom share one 5-MHz channel--5405 kHz. While it's legal for US hams to work UK amateurs--and some transatlantic contacts already have been reported--the RSGB 5 MHz Working Group says UK hams are on the band specifically as part of propagation and equipment experiments, not to make general contacts. - via ARRL Letter Online 7/11/03

Ham Ads

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:

Mosley TA-33 HF Beam. 10, 15, 20 and 40 meters. 3 elements with 40 meter extension. Reduced to a bargain \$150. Wayne, WD4JPQ, 756-7719

For Sale:

Mosley Classic 33 \$100. The center part of the reflector was bent in hurricane Floyd. I worked on it and got it as straight as I could.

Bill Dawson, WA4SLC, 946-4760 or dawsonw@mail.ecu.edu.

For Sale:

Hygain TH-6 tri-band beam. \$200
Hassell Bailey, W4OZV, 756-4471 or hbb929@aol.com

For Sale:

Ed Andrews (SK) estate. Kenwood TS-820 \$200. Kenwood TR-7800 2m FM \$60, GSC 35R 35 Amp power supply \$150, Shure mic \$40, Astatic D104 mic \$35, (2) Radio Shack mobile speakers \$15. Contact Annette Andrews 792-7657 (Williamston).

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@qsl.net

Help support *Ham Chatter*. **Donations accepted!**

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.
- ◆ 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

FREE!

Amateur Radio Technician License Course in only 5 sessions!

Orientation: September 13

Class 1: Sep 20

Class 2: Oct 4

Class 3: Oct 18

Class 4: Nov 1

Class 5: Nov 15

Exam: Nov 22

Contact: Murray Merner, K4MHM
757-3429 or k4mhm@arrl.net

The course book is *Now You're Talking* (5th Edition)
which will have to be purchased.

The Morse Code is not required for this license.

BARC

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Aug 12 **Regular Meeting**
 Aug 15 **BARC VE Session**
 Aug 26 Board Meeting
 Aug 27 *Ham Chatter Deadline*
 Aug 30-31..... Shelby Hamfest
 Sep 9 **Regular Meeting**
 Sep 13-14..... ARRL VHF QSO Party
 Sep 27-28..... CQ/RJ WW RTTY Contest
 Sept 30..... **Board Meeting**
 Oct 4 *Ham Chatter Deadline*
 Oct 14..... **Regular Meeting**
 Oct 17..... **BARC VE Session**
 Oct 25/26..... CQ WW SSB DX Contest

Oct 28..... **Board Meeting**
 Nov 1 *Ham Chatter Deadline*
 Nov 1/2..... ARRL CW Sweepstakes
 Nov 11..... **Regular Meeting - Elections**
 Nov 15/16..... ARRL SSB Sweepstakes
 Nov 25..... **Board Meeting**
 Nov 29..... *Ham Chatter Deadline*
 Nov 29/30..... CQ WW CW DX Contest
 Dec 6/7..... ARRL 160 Meter Contest
 Dec 9 **Christmas Party!**
 Dec 13/14..... ARRL 10 Meter Contest

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

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

Printing courtesy of Xerox



August 2003
Next Meeting
August 12

To:



PO Box 8387
 Greenville, NC 27835

Ham Chatter