

Ham Chatter



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May 2005

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US House Resolution calls on FCC to evaluate BPL interference, review rules



Rep Michael Ross, WD5DVR, of Arkansas, has introduced a resolution in the US House of Representatives calling on the FCC to "conduct a full and complete analysis" of radio interference from broadband over

power line (BPL). The resolution, H. Res 230, says the Commission should comprehensively evaluate BPL's interference potential incorporating "extensive public review and comment," and--in light of that analysis--to "reconsider and review" its new BPL rules. If approved by the full House, the non-binding resolution, introduced April 21, would express the requests as "the sense of the House of Representatives." The FCC adopted rules to govern so-called Access BPL last October 14 in ET Docket 04-37.

The resolution's prime focus is on BPL's potential to disrupt critical public safety radiocommunication. It cites National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) studies that "have determined that broadband over power line creates a 'high risk' of radio wave interference, and that harmful interference to public safety mobile radio receivers can be expected at distances of 75 meters from the power line where broadband over power line is in operation, and at distances of up to 460 meters from fixed stations, such as VHF police or fire dispatch communications facilities."

The resolution notes that the same NTIA study determined that BPL interference to aeronautical and airline travel communications "could be expected at distances up to 40 kilometers from the center of the broadband over power line system, and that interference to outer marker beacons for airline instrument landing systems could be expected at great distances as well."

Many public safety agencies and support services, including emergency medical services, fire, and law enforcement, utilize Low-Band VHF (30-50 MHz), the resolution points out. Thirteen states--California, Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, West Virginia and Wyoming--use the band for state police operations, while it's the primary public safety radio band in nine states.

ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, has urged ARRL members to contact their US representatives to support the resolution when it reaches the floor of the House. A sample letter is available on the ARRL Web site, although members are encouraged to express their support in their own words. If you're not sure who represents your congressional district, visit the United States House of Representatives Web site.

To expedite delivery, send all correspondence bound for Members of Congress--preferably as an attachment--to hres230@arrl.org or fax it to 703-684-7594. The ARRL will bundle correspondence addressed to each Member of Congress for hand delivery. — Via ARRL Letter Online 4/29/05

Next Meeting May 10

The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club will have its next meeting on May 10 at 7:30 PM at the VFW Post Home 7032 on 1108 Mumford Road in Greenville.

The program will be by Michael Tucker, KI4JBX, and Sandy Harris. They will discuss Urban Search and Rescue..

All members, families and guests are invited to attend.

The next board meeting is set for May 31 at 7:30 PM. The meeting is open to all members..

Solaire Anywhere Portable Grill winner!

Mike Langley, KD4MTT, won the Solaire Anywhere Portable Grill at the April 24 drawing at the Dogwood Festival in Farmville. For those that sold tickets, **there will be a drawing** at the May 10 club meeting for an HT. Each seller has one chance for each 10 tickets sold.



President's Corner

Mike Langley, KD4MTT

Last month was a busy one for the Amateur community. Pitt County and BARC was well represented at the statewide ARES meeting in Raleigh. Bernie Nobles, WA4MOK, put on a great program and the room was full of attendees.

The RARSFEST was, let's say, under attended – but still a great opportunity to see friends and pick up a few trinkets. Raffle ticket sales were a little slow, but worth the trip.

The following weekend we participated in the Farmville Dogwood Festival. The Club had great turnout, and many thanks to all of those that participated. Saturday was good, until the rain blew through. The official rain gauge recorded 0.25" in less than 15 minutes. We managed to get everything put away and tied down before the fire service alerted stations to an approaching front. After the storm the traffic was "light" and we called it a day for the special event station.

Sunday proved to be a little slower than Saturday afternoon. At times it looked like we had more people at our station than there were on the midway.

One official remarked that we "were in the right place with our disaster response unit." But hey – we still had a good time, sold some tickets, and had a drawing. When it was over the Club had taken in over \$1200 in ticket sales. A good job by all.

Next on our event agenda is Field Day. We have just under two months to plan and prepare for our biggest event of the year. Richard, KG4SNE, and John, KE4TZN, are this years co-chairs. Remember, it is not their job to make Field Day a success – it is "OURS."

Please don't wait to be asked to help. Figure out what you would like to do and VOLUNTEER. Planning, setup, cooking and take down. These are all as important to a successful effort as operating and logging. The event will cover the better part of two days and operating will consume 24 of those hours.

Looking forward to seeing all of you at the next meeting on May 10th. It sounds like the Urban Search And Rescue (USAR) team will be on hand to tell us about what they do.

73's
Mike, KD4MTT



Happy Birthday

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

- 1 WB4PAC Bill Overton
- 3 K4KST David Ball
- 14 W4TEP Tom Parsons
- 16 KI4JBX Michael Tucker
- 18 KI4IWR Oscar Barnes
- 19 KB3KR J. Lawry Bennetts

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

Well Wishes

Thoughts and Prayers go out to the following:

- Jeff Hardee, K4RJF
- Bernice Turnage, WA4SLD

Please inform Bryon Highland, K4BMH, of any changes.



Next VE Session

The next Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club VE session will be held on **June 17**. 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 \$14.00
- ◆ Proof of Tech Plus if before 3/21/87 and doing paper upgrade to General.

Be sure to bring **copies** of your Amateur Radio license and / or CSCE if upgrading.

Upcoming Hamfests

The First Annual Rockingham County Hamfest near Reidsville is May 14.

The Williamston Swapfest is May 21. It will be at the National Guard Armory and talk-in is on 145.41 - PL 131.8.

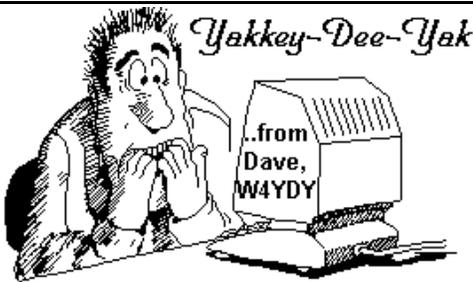
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The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club has just finished another successful fundraiser with the drawing for the So-laire Anywhere Portable Grill. Mike, KD4MTT is asking members to give their input to him for any equipment or accessories that the club might need. Thanks to Mike and all others that sold and bought tickets for the grill. A drawing will be held at the May 10 club meeting for an HT for ticket sellers of 10 or more tickets.

One of the best sellers at the Ra-

leigh hamfest was Sandy Thigpen, K4SMT. She was parting a number of the attendees with their dollar. Quite a



At the BARC table, Hollis, KC3X, Sandy, K4SMT, Doug, K4ROK, and Bill, WA4SLC.

number of BARC members were at the hamfest and all seemed to enjoy it very much.

Field Day is approaching very fast and Richard Campbell, KG4SNE,

and John Johnson, KE4TZN, are looking for help. They are working together to get the ball rolling.

Congratulation to Richard Cox, KI4CRD, for upgrading to the Amateur Extra Class license at the last BARC VE Session. Also, Jed Stancill from Winterville passed Element 2 for the Technician license. His new call sign, KI4JUH, was granted April 20. Jed also joined the club. Please welcome him to the club.

The BARC roster is in this issue of *Ham Chatter*. Due to the limitations of 8 pages (or 4 sheets), a couple of pages of news from the ARRL and others had to be cut short. We could use 10 pages if we did not run some color pictures. The machine that prints color uses heavier paper and 5 sheets of the heavy paper weighs over an ounce thereby costing more postage. Thanks to Xerox for doing an outstanding job. - W4YDY

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BARC Meeting Minutes - April 2005

BARC MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

VFW HALL, MUMFORD RD.

April 12, 2005

Mike Langley, KD4MTT, Club President called the meeting to order at 1934 and welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked all attending to introduce themselves with name, call sign, and town. The roster book was passed around to record attendance. The minutes from last month was approved.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Richard, KI4CRD, reported receiving newsletters from other clubs, and information on the Dogwood Festival.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Terry, KG4WEW, reported on expenditures and reminded all about dues.

HEALTH AND WELFARE: Byron, K4BMH, reported no news on anyone.

EQUIPMENT: Mike, KD4MTT, brought up the movie screen for presentations that had been discussed. A motion was made and seconded to purchase. A vote was taken and passed. Tom, W4TEP, to purchase. The price is approximately \$130.00. The following equipment was mentioned for possible purchase in the future: AT180 tuner for the 706 and one for the 840, audio splitters, map for showing contacts at field day, and logging software. Any suggestions get with a board member. Terry, KG4WEW, to check on Tax Exemption for club.

PUBLICITY: No report.

EMERGENCY COMMUNICA-

TIONS: Bernie, WA4MOK, reported statewide meeting is April 16 in Raleigh, starting at 10:30am until around 2:00. Numerous speakers have been lined up. Hope to see you there. Also 2nd Saturday in May Area 1&2 in Columbia, the program is on Winlink 2000.

Two web sites about hurricanes, hurricanetrack.com and storms2k.org, which are good sites about the tropics. An increase of severe landfalls has been predicted for this hurricane season also.

Doug, K4ROK, reported on the good response for SONC. Dave, KG4CZV, reported 29 hams from 8 counties with 17 from our club put in approximately 426 hours and they were real happy to have us.

Doug, K4ROK, also reported all ARES equipment is now compatible with state equipment and are waiting on county to inventory. All club equipment has been checked and is in the trailer. Anyone having any AREAS equipment contact Doug or Byron with serial numbers of anything you have.

Mike, KD4MTT, reported Bill Sanford, K4BHO, has reassumed duties as Newport Skywarn and ask all to check into net when possible on 146.685.

HAM CHATTER: Dave, W4YDY, Extra rosters and copies of Ham Chatter on the table for all interested. Also heard that Tom Forrest's, N4GVK, father passed away. Tom is a former member of the club.

VE SESSIONS: Tom, W4TEP, reported VE tests are now \$14.00. Next VE session will be April 16.

OLD BUSINESS: RARSFEST table will be set up Sunday stop by and help out so everyone gets a break. Dogwood Festival coming up April 22-24. Help is needed there also. The winning ticket for the grill will be drawn at the conclusion. All stubs and money must be turned in prior to the drawing.

Camporee will be held on 30th of April, Dave, KV4CN, needs help with it.

Field Day will be in the same place. Richard, KG4SNE, and John, KE4TZN, is working on getting things going, so go ahead and volunteer or say yes when they ask for help.

NEW BUSINESS: Dave, KV4CN, mentioned the need for QSL cards for the club, he is to order for all club calls. Eric, KF4OTN, mentioned the upcoming MS walk at ECU, see him to volunteer or for information. A Discussion was held about the starting time for our monthly meeting. Some wish to start at 7:00pm instead of 7:30pm. A motion was made and seconded to start at 7:00Pm. A vote was taken and it was defeated.

TONIGHT'S PROGRAM: Dave, W4YDY gave an interesting and informative program on QSLing, which was enjoyed by all.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business the meeting adjourned about 9:30PM

Respectfully submitted by

Richard Cox, KI4CRD

BARC Board Minutes - April 2005

BARC BOARD MEETING

April 26, 2005

Mike Langley, KD4MTT, called the meeting to order at 1930 EST. Attendees were: Mike Langley, KD4MTT, John McCoy, K4KBB, Dave Langley, W4YDY, Byron Highland, K4BMH, Terry Monday, KG4WEW, Taylor Millar, W4WTM, Pat Williams, KG4NSC, and Richard Cox, KI4CRD.

Secretary's Report: Richard, KI4CRD,

reported copies of newsletters received and good attendance at Dogwood Festival.

Treasury's Report: Terry, KG4WEW, gave financial report. Tom, W4TEP, is purchasing the screen to be used for programs at BARC meeting.

Health & Welfare: Byron, K4BMH, reported has not received word of anyone sick.

Publicity: Pat, KG4NSC, reported he is working on letters to officials for field day and looking for ARRL handouts

Ham Chatter: Dave, W4YDY, nothing to report.

ARES: Had a good turnout for the Dogwood Festival. As everyone knows Mike, KD4MTT, won the grill. (Congratulations) Again it was a good fundraising event. Next year we should

(Continued on page 7)

BARC Board Minutes - April 2005

(Continued from page 6)

be moving to a better location within the main part instead of on the outskirts of the park.

It was reported we had a good representation from Pitt County at the statewide meeting in April. ARES area 1&2 meeting will be held in Columbia on May 14.

New Business: Mike, KD4MTT, reported need for a ladder is needed for the trailer, also headset boxes.

Richard, KG4SNE, and John, KE4TZN, will be heading up the Field Day. It was mentioned we need banners and place in strategic sights so they can be seen for field day.

Volunteers are needed, see Richard or John and volunteer. The Crime stoppers telethon is coming up Sept 24/25 and the possibility of the club manning the phones for expo-

Congressman queries FCC Chair on Amateur Radios BPL concerns

Following the prepared testimony of FCC Chairman Kevin J. Martin before the US House Appropriations Committee April 26, Rep Rodney Alexander of Louisiana raised the topic of broadband over power line (BPL) and how it was hurting the Amateur Radio community. Again acknowledging the concerns of radio amateurs regarding BPL's interference potential, Martin responded that the Commission is aware of the good work that radio amateurs do and that the FCC would attempt to strike a balance with the amateur community with respect to its BPL concerns.

When the FCC unanimously adopted new BPL rules last October, Martin also took note of Amateur Radio's concerns, said he would take them seriously, and expressed confidence that the Commission would take the necessary steps to address interference.

Martin succeeded Michael K. Powell as FCC chairman in March. His Appropriations Committee appearance--his first as FCC chairman--was to discuss the Commission's fiscal year 2006 budget request. - *Via ARRL Letter Online 4/29/05*

sure was discussed.

Reidsville Hamfest on May 15. Williamston swap fest on May 21. Winston-Salem Hamfest on June 11.

Programs: Our program this month will be on Urban Search & Rescue. This should be very interesting.

VE Session: VE session to be held June 17th.

Mike, KD4MTT, with no further business closed the meeting at 2035 EST

Respectfully submitted by

Richard Cox, KI4CRD

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: Kenwood TH-K2AT 2 meter handheld. Original battery, rubber duck & dual band antennae. BT-14 battery case with 6-AA batteries in it. Also it comes with another case with clip to carry radio in. Wall charger and mobile charger plus the original box and manual that came in the box. \$80 for everything.

Philip Garrett, KI4DLO, Ph: 717-5446 or ki4dlo@earthlink.net.

For Sale: ICOM IC-706MKIIG, Separation Kit, Better Tune Module, Adapter for Heil Boom Headset, All for the Low Price of \$650.00

Bernie Nobles, WA4MOK, 756-0020 or wa4mok@earthlink.net

For Sale: MFJ-1272B TNC/MIC Interface switch. 8 pin microphone connector. Use with Kenwood, Alinco, Icom, Ranger or Yaesu radios. New cost \$40. **Never used.** Only \$20. Dave Langley, W4YDY. Ph: 321-2525 or w4ydy@qsl.net.

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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

NC ARES Internet

<http://www.ncarrl.org/ares/>

BARC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 10 **Regular Meeting**
 May 14 Rockingham Hamfest
 May 21 Williamston Swapfest
 May 28-29..... CQ WW CW WPX Contest
 May 31 **Board Meeting**
 June 4..... **Ham Chatter Deadline**
 June 14..... **Regular Meeting**
 June 17..... BARC VE Session
 June 25-26 **ARRL Field Day**
 June 28 **Board Meeting**
 July 2..... **Ham Chatter Deadline**
 July 9..... IARU HF World Championship
 July 12..... **Regular Meeting**

July 16..... Cary Hamfest
 July 26..... **Board Meeting**
 July 30..... **Ham Chatter Deadline**
 Aug 9..... Regular Meeting
 Aug 19..... BARC VE Session
 Aug 30..... **Board Meeting**
 Sep 3..... **Ham Chatter Deadline**
 Sep 3-4..... Shelby Hamfest
 Sep 13..... **Regular Meeting**
 Sep 24..... CQ WW RTTY Contest
 Sep 27..... **Board Meeting**

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



*Next Meeting
May 10*

May 2005

To:



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Ham Chatter