

# HAM CHATTER



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## FCC Issues Amateur Radio Licensee a Notice of Violation for Pirate Broadcasting

The FCC Enforcement Bureau has sent a California Amateur Radio licensee a Notice of Violation (NoV) alleging that he engaged in unlicensed — or “pirate” — radio broadcasting — on the FM band. The NoV to Lyle E. Hilden, KD-6LUL, of Vista, was released on May 26. Depending on Hilden’s responses, the NoV could be a precursor to a Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture (fine).

According to the FCC’s Los Angeles Office, the Enforcement Bureau in March received a complaint of an apparently unlicensed FM broadcasting station on 93.7 MHz in Vista. The NoV does not indicate the origin of the complaint, but these sometimes come from legitimate broadcasters in the listening area. The NoV also does not recount the nature of the alleged pirate broadcasts nor indicate how long they had continued.

The following month, FCC agents monitored the apparent unlicensed signal 93.7 MHz and used direction-finding techniques “to positively locate” its source as Hilden’s residence.

“Field strength measurements revealed that the signal transmitted by the station greatly exceeded 250  $\mu$ V per meter at 3 meters — the maximum permitted on 93.7 [under Part 15 rules] without a Broadcast license,” the FCC said in the NoV. Agents inspected Hilden’s station and pointed out in the NoV that his Amateur Radio license does not entitle him to transmit on the FM broadcast band.

The FCC called on Hilden to provide additional information in writing within 20 days of the NoV, fully explaining any violations and providing “all relevant surrounding facts and circumstances.” Hilden also must spell out and provide a time line for the actions he has taken to correct any violations and preclude their recurrence.

See more at [go.joeteach.us/2rUgZK6](http://go.joeteach.us/2rUgZK6)

## Next Meeting June 13, 2017

The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club will have its regular meeting at 7:30 PM Tuesday, May 9, at VFW Post 7032 on 1108 Mumford Road in Greenville. The program will be by Field Day Chairman Bernie Nobles, WA4MOK. He will discuss plans for the BARC Field Day on June 24/25 at Oakwood School. All members, families and guests are invited to attend.



## BARC Board Meeting

The next board meeting will be Tuesday, June 27 at 7:30 PM at the Offices of Monday & Monday, (CPA), Suite D, East Victoria Court. All members invited.

**Consent Decree, Forfeiture Terminate FCC Interference Investigation**

The FCC has again used a consent decree to resolve an enforcement matter. The FCC Enforcement Bureau recently concluded a radio interference investigation with “a negotiated settlement” and \$90,000 civil penalty. The case against AFX Inc. involved the marketing of unauthorized RF devices that interfered with AM/FM radio reception.

After the company’s NLL Series LED lighting fixtures were reported to be causing interference to broadcast radio reception last year, the Enforcement Bureau’s Spectrum Enforcement Division issued a Letter of Inquiry (LOI) to AFX directing it to submit a sworn written response regarding its marketing and sale of the fixtures, considered unintentional radiators under FCC rules. The FCC said evidence revealed that the suspect lighting fixtures had not been tested and authorized under FCC rules prior to marketing, and that AFX con-

tinued to market them during an approximately 5-month period after receipt of the LOI.

“[W]e find that the public interest would be served by adopting the Consent Decree and terminating the referenced investigation regarding AFX’s marketing of unauthorized radio frequency devices, and compliance with Section 302(b) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended and Sections 2.803(b)(2), 15.107(a), and 15.109(a) of the Commission’s rules (Rules),” the FCC said.

See more at [go.joeteach.us/2qAI05I](http://go.joeteach.us/2qAI05I)

**Next VE Session**

Exams will be held on Tuesday, June 20, 2017 at VFW Post 7032 on 1108 Mumford Road in Greenville, NC. Exams will start promptly at 6:30 PM. For more info email Gary, KE5ACR at [ve@w4amc.com](mailto:ve@w4amc.com). (remove spaces) Study material at <http://www.arrl.org/coursestraining>. Walk-ins welcome.

Please bring the following required:

- Photo ID (drivers license)
- Original Amateur Radio License
- Copy of Amateur Radio License
- Original CSCE’s
- Copy of CSCE
- Test fee is \$15.00 .
- Proof of Tech Plus if before 3/21/87 and doing paper upgrade to General.
- SS Number will be needed if you don’t have an FRN number. \*

\* More info at <<http://bit.ly/1FOhE1S>>.

**NC ARES Internet**

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

**Pitt County ARES EC needed!**



*Happy Birthday*

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

- 04 KK4LHL Jonathan O’Quinn
- 11 WA4SLC Bill Dawson
- 12 Lindalee Hanrahan
- 15 AI4TN Bill Finch, Jr.
- 17 K4IDD Gerry Clayton
- 27 W4JNC Richard Campbell

*Well Wishes*

Thoughts and Prayers go out to the following:

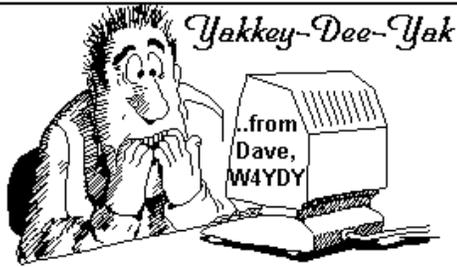
Please inform Joe Jeansonne, KB4JOE, of any changes.

Additions or corrections to KB4JOE

**In this Issue..**

- ARRL Seeking Synergy with Maker Movement..... 1
- Motorola Solutions Sues Hytera Communications, Alleging Patent, Trade Secrets Theft..... 2
- Girl Scouts and Guides “Thinking Day on the Air” Generates Enthusiasm for Ham Radio..... 4
- February 2017 BARC VE Session Results..... 4
- BARC Regular Meeting Minutes—March 14, 2017..... 6
- 7th Annual JWA Touch A Truck 7 BARC CALENDAR OF EVENTS..... 8

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**Carl Rochelle, WB4MVJ, SK**

Carl Rochelle, WB4MVJ, passed away May 20, 2017. He was 79 and was the son of John and Oneida Rochelle, Washington, NC. His dad was W4LR and his mother was W4ZIQ.

After starting working in radio in Greenville, Carl worked his way up to being a national correspondent for ABC, CNN and MSNBC.

I remember seeing Carl quite often reporting from Washington, DC after we got cable TV and occasionally we would see Carl reporting a story on NBC News. The last time I saw him in person was in the early 1950s when we were both teenagers and I was visiting John.

John told me that he was the only Amateur Radio operator in Beaufort County and I was the second. Oneida got her license a few months after I got mine. I talked to John on 75 meter AM phone many times from 1953 to 1957 and the first time was less than 30 minutes on 3860 KC after I got my General Class license in the mail. That was long before KC, short for kilocycles per second, became Hertz! I also had 4 QSOs with Oneida during the summer of 1953. Never did hear Carl on the air.

John was Assistant Fire Chief for the Washington FD. After he retired from the FD, he worked at the WITN transmitter at Grifton that I helped sign on in 1955. That story is at <http://pages.suddenlink.net/w4ydy/mywitnexperience.pdf>. The FCC still required a First Class Radiotelephone licensed was required to be on site to take and record transmitter readings every 30 minutes. When I was visiting in the area, I would go over Grifton and visit John at the transmitter site and he would tell me about Carl's accomplishments in network TV. John was very proud of Carl.

I still think about W4LR often and the good times we had and his stories about his Amateur Radio experience when I visited him at his house and later at the TV transmitter site.

**Field Day, June 24/25**

Bernie, WA4MOK, will present a program for the BARC Field Day preparations. He will have sign-up sheets for the different jobs and also operators during the contest. If you have a Technician Class license, this is our excellent chance to operate on the HF bands. There will be an Amateur Class licensee overseeing the operation so so you can operate any Amateur Radio frequency being used during the contest. Get in there and operate and that should get you excited enough to upgrade you license.

Saturday night there will be great meal prepared by Bernie's MUCH BETTER half topped off by some great deserts. If you were there last year, you will know what I am talking about.

Field Day is a great opportunity to interact with your fellow club members along with learning about more facets of Amateur Radio. That includes us ole' timers also. - W4YDY

**Membership dues for BARC are due January 1. Those who have not paid their dues will not be listed on the roster and will be removed from the Ham Chatter mailing list starting in April. Membership dues are the same as they were in 2015 and are as follows:**

- Regular Member \$20.00**
- Family Member \$2.00**
- Associate Member (Non-Licensed) \$5.00**
- Honorary Member \$0.00**
- New Hams: 18 and younger (1st year) \$5.00**
- New Hams: 19 and older (1st year) \$10.00**

## Maritime Mobile Service Net Relays Distress Call; Crew and Vessel Safe

The Maritime Mobile Service Network (MMSN) recently served as a critical communication link after the sport fishing vessel Free Spirit put out a “mayday” distress call on VHF marine channel 16 after running into trouble in Mexican waters. Brian Stipak, KF7QCX — skipper of the sailing vessel Ubiquity — heard the May 13 mayday, which advised that the Free Spirit was sinking quickly with four people on board and that all were abandoning ship. Unable to raise coastal stations on his vessel’s VHF radio, Stipak went to the MMSN’s 14.300 MHz frequency. Despite marginal band conditions, he was able to relay a position report to net control station Ken Porter, ACoML, who had assistance from fellow NCS Scott Roberts, KK4ECR.

“They were taking on water and could not find the source, and were deploying their life raft,” Stipak recounted on his website. “He clearly gave the coordinates for his position, which I plotted and saw [he] was about in the middle of the Sea of Cor-

tez, about 46 nautical miles from me. My VHF communication with him was marginal.” Stipak said that while he could barely hear the MMSN net control, the operator was able to copy the information. The S/V Fathom also heard the mayday and set a course for the distressed boat.

Porter notified the US Coast Guard in San Diego to relay the information to the Mexican Navy, which dispatched a vessel to the Free Spirit’s last-known position. The Coast Guard also tried to raise Ubiquity on 14.300 MHz, but band conditions were changing rapidly, and there was no further contact.

Stipak also was able to get through on his cell phone to the port captain at Puerto Escondido and leave information on the distress call.

“We did not hear from the boat in distress for an hour, the last communication saying they were deploying the life raft. I thought the boat had likely sunk,” Stipak said in his website narrative.

“Then, the captain of Free Spirit came on the VHF again saying they had found and stopped the leak, were trying to pump out the boat, could not start the engine, had deployed the life raft, but not abandoned the boat and did not yet want to cancel the mayday.

Roberts later learned via the Coast Guard that the Free Spirit had been towed to the port of San Carlos and that all on board were safe.

“It looks like a great resolution to a very intense situation,” Stipak allowed afterward.

Read more at [go.joeteach.us/2rUplkZ](http://go.joeteach.us/2rUplkZ)

## April 2017 BARC VE Session Results

On the April 18, 2017 BARC VE session, two candidates attended and both passed Amateur Radio exams

Reggie Bradshaw, **K4EEP**, Greenville, upgraded to General. Also Mike Geaney, **KN4CVM**, Oriental, passed the Technician exam.

Their new licenses were posted on the FCC web site on April 25, 2017. BARC congratulates both for their accomplishment.

The VE’s that attended were VE Liaison Gary Coriell, **KE5ACR**, Dave Langley, **W4YDY**, and Morris Lewis, **AK4MU**.

The next regular BARC VE session is scheduled for **June 20, 2017**.

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BARC VE  
session is  
scheduled for  
June 20, 2017

# Ham Ads

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**BARC Regular Meeting Minutes— May 9, 2017**

BRIGHTLEAF ARC MEETING  
MINUTES  
May 09, 2017

The BARC meeting was called to order at 19:35pm by President Meyer at the VFW hall on Mumford Road.

Introductions: Those in attendance are listed in the notebook, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

After introductions and the Pledge President Meyer turned the meeting over to Murray Adams, WA4DAN (CY9C), for his slide-show on the St. Paul Island Dxpediton

**UP COMING ACTIVITIE:**

May 13, 9:00AM;  
FD trial run; Oakwood School. Bernie Nobles, WA4MOK, FD Chairman, has recommended small working two-person teams for tables/rigs/software (TEAM 1), generators and power (TEAM 2) and antennas (TEAM 3). Time to update the FD logging software, set up the digital station, etc.

President Meyer reported that he continues to be in communication with Alan Everett's office regarding backup emergency communications joint activity in July, no date set.

The Treasurer's report indicated a balance of \$4,158.17.

The BARC library list has been updated.

The June program will be by Bernie Nobles, WA4MOK, FD preparation.

VE information: All VE Sessions are scheduled to be held at VFW Post 7032, 1108 Mumford Road, Greenville, NC. Exams will start promptly at 6:30PM. The next VE session will be Tuesday, June 20, 2017. We need to look at making a schedule for VE's to insure three VE's attendance.

After some discussion it was moved by K4BMH, seconded by W4EJ that the BARC should expend \$60.00 to acquire the RigBlaster Plus from the estate of Bill Finch,

AI4TN(SK), motion passed by a unanimous vote.

There was no Secretary's report.

There was no Equipment report.

Byron Highland, K4BMH, reported that the DownEast hamfest turned a proffit this year. He continued his report with an announcement of a raffle on behalf of the Pitt/Greenville Fraternal Order of Police Lodges, tickets \$5.00. First prize is a Glock model 43, 9MM semi-automatic pistol; 2nd prize \$100.00; 3rd prize \$50.00. Drawing will take place on Sept. 11th.

The next BARC Board meeting will be May 30th at 19:30pm at the offices of Monday & Monday, 105D east Victoria Court in Greenville.

The meeting was adjourned at 20:58pm.

Respectfully submitted  
Albert Sanchez, WA7FXB  
BARC Secretary



**Telecommunications Ministry in India Orders Halt to Online Transceiver Sales**

The Mumbai Mirror in India reports that a complaint by radio amateurs has prompted the Telecommunications Ministry to order online purveyors, including eBay and Amazon, to stop selling wireless transmitting equipment. According to the newspaper, a group of hams wrote the Wireless Advisor in the Telecommunications Ministry last fall to warn that online sales of wireless equipment could pose a national security threat.

Their warning followed reports of “highly suspicious” 2-meter transmissions along the Bengal-Bangladesh border. Their letter drew the attention of the Intelligence Bureau, the prime minister’s office, and the military.

The Telecommunications Ministry now has ordered e-commerce websites to stop selling transmitting gear online, effective immediately. The law in

India requires that those selling such equipment have a dealer’s possession license and users have a license to transmit.

Ankur Puranik, VU2AXN, spokesperson of the Mumbai Amateur Radio Society, told the newspaper, “...our concern is that the powerful equipment can fall into wrong hands and be misused. More importantly, these two-way radios can tune into any frequency including confidential frequencies used by law enforcement agencies. They can be misused to listen to confidential wireless conversations.

Read more at [go.joeteach.us/2smE4BS](http://go.joeteach.us/2smE4BS)

**NETS  
VHF/UHF**

- ◆ BARC Net, Mondays, 2000 on 147.09 MHz, W4GDF Repeater.
- ◆ Newport SkyWarn Tues. nights 2100E Grifton-146.685-88.5 tone
- ◆ Newport-145.450..... IRLP 8561 links to Columbia
- ◆ Jacksonville-147.000- 88.5 tone
- ◆ Oriental-147.210-151.4 tone
- ◆ 444 Newport-444.825- 88.5 tone
- ◆ Swansboro-146.760- 88.5 tone
- ◆ Grantsboro-145 230 - 85.4 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, Thursdays @ 2000 on 146.76 MHz.
- ◆ Piedmont Coastal Traffic Net, Nightly 2030 on 146.88 MHz.
- ◆ Carteret County ARS (CCARS) Emergency Net, Tuesdays, 1930 on the Newport 145.45 (-) MHz.
- ◆ Coastal Emergency Linking Net, Wednesday, 2100 ET on Ahoskie 145.13, Buxton 145.15, Columbia 146.835 & 443.30, Elizabeth City 146.655, Greenville, 145.35, Hertford 147.33, Williamston 145.41 & 444.25

**HF**

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

**NTS CW Nets**

- ◆ 3.571 2000 hours, slow speed (5-8 wpm) Carolinas Slow Net
- ◆ 3.573 1900 hours, high speed (20wpm)
- ◆ 3.573 2200 hours, slow speed (12-14 wpm), South Carolina/ North Carolina

**Greenville repeaters**

147.09/69 - 145.35/144.75

444.8/449.8

All use 131.8 tone

**BARC  
CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

June 13 .....	Club Meeting	July 22 .....	SOS Show Off Shack #4
June 20 .....	BARC VE	July 25 .....	Board Meeting
<b>June 24-25</b> .....	<b>Field Day</b>	August 8 .....	Club Meeting
July 15 .....	HAMFEST Cary	August 12 .....	SOS Show Off Shack #5

Regular Meeting - 2nd Tuesday @ 7:30 PM

Board Meeting - Last Tuesday

BARC 2 METER NET - MONDAY NIGHTS AT 8:00 PM - 147.09 W4GDF REPEATER - 131.8 Tone  
BRIGHTLEAF AMATEUR RADIO CLUB STATIONS  
**W 1 V O A - W 4 A M C - W 4 U H S**



**JUNE 2017  
Next Meeting  
June 13, 2017**

To:



**Ham Chatter**  
Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club  
PO Box 8387  
Greenville, NC 27835