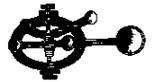




Ham Chatter



Volume XXXIII Issue 4 An Official BARC, W4AMC, Publication

April 1999

Editor, Dave Langley, W4YDY, Email: w4ydy@arrl.net

Contributing Editor: Murray Merner,

Meet The Member Harold Bailey, KD4NRB



The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club will have its monthly meeting on April 13 at 7:30 PM at St. Peter's School on 4th Street.

All members and guests are invited to attend. The next board meeting is set for April 27 at 7:00 PM. The meeting is open

Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 1999 Introduced

It's round two in Congress for the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act. At the request of the ARRL, Rep Michael Bilirakis introduced the 1999 version of the proposed legislation, HR 783, on February 23.

The bill is aimed at ensuring the availability of spectrum to Amateur Radio operators. It would protect existing Amateur Radio spectrum against reallocations to or sharing with other services unless the FCC provides "equivalent replacement spectrum" elsewhere. Bilirakis, a Florida Republican, also sponsored last year's measure, which attracted upwards of 83 cosponsors on both sides of the aisle. Rep Frank Pallone Jr, a New Jersey Democrat, is the initial cosponsor of the 1999 bill.

ARRL Legislative and Public Affairs Manager Steve Mansfield, N1MZA, says the 1999 bill "is largely the same as last year's HR 3572." The major difference is that the 1999 version adds "Amateur Satellite Service" frequencies to "Amateur Radio Service" in detailing the frequencies that would be afforded protection under the act.

Specifically, HR 783 would amend the Communications Act to require the FCC to provide "equivalent

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Stamp Donation

Many thanks to Jack Kear, K4MI, for his donation of a roll of stamps for *Ham Chatter*. Everyone enjoyed visiting with Jack at the March club meeting during his trip down from

Harold hails from Walstonburg, NC and has been there most of his life. He attended the University of North Carolina and was to graduate in 1942, but an event call WWII altered his plans. He was drafted with only a few weeks to go. He did go back for six weeks to finish his degree in 1953 in political science. He's fond of saying it took him sixteen years and had a parking ticket. He actually had to pay for a parking ticket before they would let him graduate.

He worked in the farm supply business and has lived also in South Carolina, Florida and Georgia. His private sector employment was for the Feed and Grain Store in Walstonburg. His last employment prior to his retirement in 1986 was with the State of North Carolina Department of Revenue. He was a revenuer. He worked for the state for 17.5 years in the area of income tax. Now he has a little farm with a fish pond and takes life easy.

(Continued on page 5)

May Meeting, Picnic at Farmville

Bernice Turnage, WA4SLD, Harold Baily, KD4NRB, Joe Melton, WB4SLF, Byron Highland, KA4KGZ, and Tommy Lang, WD4PYO, have invited the club to Farmville again for a pig picking. Everyone that attended last year had a good time and really did enjoy the good food. Joe can really cook up some good hush puppies! More information in the May *Ham Chatter*. -

Thanks Radio Shack

Joyce Griswell, KF4RBJ, of the Radio Shack in the Plaza Mall donated three *Now You're Talking* books to BARC for distribution to area libraries. John Sonnenfeld, KA7KZO, of Radio Shack in Carolina East Mall had a special sale during last year's Field Day. BARC appreciates the support of Radio Shack and their managers.

President's Corner - Murray,

I'm number 1370. That's my spotter number. I'd like to thank Bob, KE4UGC and Lily, KE4UGD for setting up the spotter training in March as part of the ARES training. Laura Furgione and John Elardo did an excellent job of teaching us about sever weather and what information NOAA would like. ARES training like this will help us and the community when the need arises.

March must of been the month for weather since Phillip Williams from WNCT-TV was our speaker for the regular meeting. He too gave us some special insights on bad weather. Weather is an important and interesting topic. Thanks Phillip. Our thanks also to Jim, KF4VHH for getting Phillip to come. We had a very nice turnout for the meeting - more than we've had in a long time. I met some for the first time. It was good to see all of you, ya'll came back. Jim is working hard on the April program. Come on out and see what's happening at BARC.

The May meeting will be *deja vu* all over again. Bernice, WA4SLD, Joe, WB4SLF, Harold, KD4NRB, Tommy, KD4PYO and Byron, KA4KGZ, have again graciously offered to do

another pig picking. Last year was a great time to "meet and eat" and this year will be a great time for all of us. We also had an informal Junk in the Trunk and were able to see the new ARES radios. Maybe there will be some of that too.

The more hams are seen as a value to the community, the more support we will get whether it's for donations or support for VOA Site C. We do add value to a community by being hams and good citizens. We've got to let people

**The more hams are seen
as a value to the
community, the more
support we will get...**

know we are here.

I've been in touch with the state highway department about the procedure for Adopt-A-Highway and will put that on the agenda for the April meeting. Basically we're assigned a two mile stretch and pick up litter four times a year.

I've also had some thoughts about "Hams for Habitat". We could go

out one Saturday morning for about five hours. It really is a great feeling to help someone who is trying to help himself. Maybe we could do a mini special event station there too.

The idea of "Hambasator" came to me a couple of weeks ago. I've never heard this term before; I visualize this being recognition of members who go out and talk about ham radio. There are lots of people who do not know about ham radio or BARC so talking it up to children and adults could acquaint them with an activity they would otherwise miss out on.

I'd like to thank John, K4KBB, for volunteering for the Field Day. We need more people to come forward and take a piece of the action. We can make Field Day as big as we want - it just depends on the number of people we have who are going to help. We could end up with one rig, one antenna, one operator. I'm sure we can do better than that, but it takes people. I plan on doing what I did last year on the logs and help set up the rigs - I learned some things last year and I want to put it to use this year. All the jobs we have to do are all doable

(Continued on page 6)



Happy Birthday

Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club members birthdays in April.

3	K4KBB	John McCoy
7	WB4FRB	Ray Black
16	KA4PBX	Edwin Griffith
20	KE4UGD	Lily Fainter
22	KF4VHI	Stephen Cullipher
25	KU4NQ	Gary Gasperini

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

Well Wishes!!

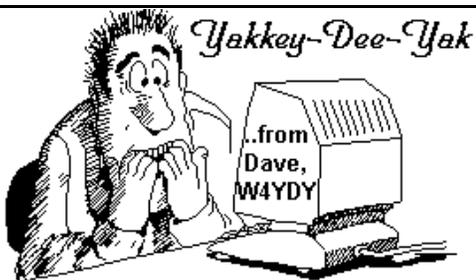
Ken, N8FF had eye surgery on March 22. It went well and Ken is encouraged about the possible positive results - he won't know for awhile. Best wishes for a speedy recovery.



Lynn Ross, KE4JZV XYL of Wayne, WD4JPQ, will undergo a medical procedure on April 5. Our

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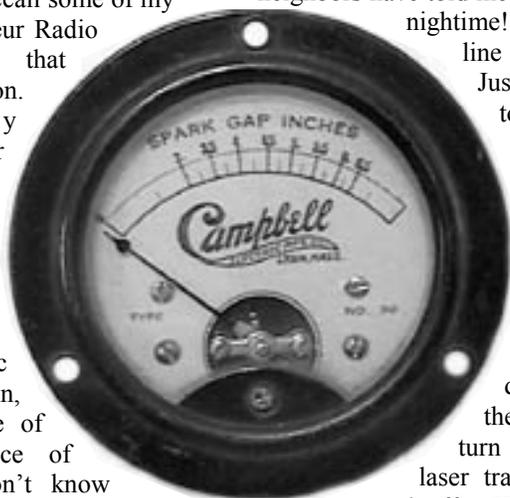


I was looking through my junk box a few days ago and came across a meter that I had forgot about. There have been some here that claim I was around when radio started and after finding one item in the junk box, he might be right after all. I tried to recall some of my early days in Amateur Radio and a transmitter that worked after a fashion.

Surely everyone is familiar with the old spark gap transmitters of the early days. Well I found my old spark gap meter manufactured by Campbell Electric Company in Lynn, MA! It is made of metal, not a piece of plastic in it. Don't know where the rest of the transmitter is. The picture of the meter might not be too clear but it does have across the top of the meter a scale name, "Spark Gap Inches". The readings go up to 6 1/2 inches but it looks like it would read a maximum of 7 1/2 inches for full power! Boy oh boy! When you had that thing kicking up to near maximum, you could be heard a long way off. The sparks were flying! It looked like a summertime thunderstorm. In the shack, it was best to wear ear and eye protection because even the neighbors from a block away would complain about the noise and bright flashes! That's why most hams lived out in the country. I had some great QSO's with some guy named Marconi in Italy!

It's amazing how much things have changed over the history of Amateur

Radio. It has gone from spark gaps to lasers. In the April issue of one of my ham magazines, there is an article using lasers for the antenna elements. With a contest coming up, I decided to try one. One of the best features is the simple way to change bands. For example, to change to 80 meters from 10 meters, I just increased the laser power by 8 times. To get to 160 meters, just double the power from 80 meters. To get your SWR to 1:1, just adjust the laser power while watching the SWR meter. It does not matter how high the antenna is mounted so that makes the installation very easy. The neighbors have told me how pretty it is at nighttime! A transmission line is not required.



Just use another laser to replace the conventional transmission line. When a thunderstorm comes up, there is not a transmission line to disconnect from the rig. When you turn your rig off, the laser transmission line is turned off! How simple can it get! In the recent WPX contest, I contacted stations from Australia to Winterville and got 59 plus reports.

Don't ask me how it works or how to make it work. I am going to keep that a secret! Just remember, this is the month of APRIL! - W4YDY



Good Buddy

In the wee hours of the other night while trying to make contact with an Alaska station, I was reminded of just how lonely ham radio can be. You may be talking with someone across town or the world, but there's nothing like having someone right there with you. I've used techniques such as talking to my self and competing against myself, but that's a poor substitute.

The answer came in a recent advertisement, you know those things you get in the mail just because you've a call sign. Maybe you've already been sent one too, but I thought it was important enough to let other people know in case they were missed. The product is called Constant Companion manufactured by Creative Plastics located in Ohio. What they've come up with is an inflatable person that will mimic specified characteristics. Before this there were more primitive versions which could be used by women to simulate a man passenger in the car when they were driving alone. The ham version includes a digital recorder containing all the characters of the Morse code, and phrases such as, What's your QTH?; You're 20 over 9 at this end.; 73 and 88; The ARRL did what?; and short quips like: dipole; beam; hamfest. One option that you can activate is to have it say cus words (this must be for the retired military radio operators).

While there's no replacement for a real person, Good Buddy (unfortunately that's the name they gave to the ham model) can take away some of the loneliness of hamming alone. Just think of it; you're sitting there late at night and sitting beside you in a ham radio baseball cap and wearing a club sweater is your night time companion - Good Buddy. You push a button and he says "hear you loud and clear." Gives you shivers doesn't it? You'll never be alone again.

Good Buddy will be available for a short time because it will be on the shelves only on April 1. - K4MHM



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FCC Investigating Texas Amateur

The FCC is investigating information indicating that Technician licensee Leonard Martin, KC5WHN, of Houston, Texas, operated outside of the amateur bands without a proper license. Field Office personnel in Houston reportedly monitored Martin and located him using direction-finding equipment on two occasions. On February 27, he was said to be operating on 27.535 MHz and 545 MHz. On March 15, he was said to be operating on 27.370 MHz, a frequency between CB channels.

FCC personnel, accompanied by local police, visited Martin on March 15, but he allegedly refused a request to inspect his station. The FCC's Riley

Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, says he has spoken with Martin, and the case is under review. "This subjects him to a large fine for unlicensed operation and refusal to allow an inspection, plus loss of his

license. "While these warning letters are a courtesy, we don't forget who we sent them to and it is a serious mistake not to take them to heart," Hollingsworth commented.

FCC sending out warning notices!

license," Hollingsworth said.

The FCC warned Martin in writing last November 3 about operation on frequencies other than those authorized under his Amateur Radio

In other actions, the FCC sent Warning Notices to an Illinois ham alleging broadcasting and on-air harassment as well as **transmission of profane and indecent language**. The FCC also warned a Texas ham about causing deliberate interference on 40 meters, an Illinois ham who holds a Technician ticket about operating on 20 and 40 meters, and a **North Carolina Novice** who's allegedly showed up on 2 meters. - *via ARRL Letter Online 3/26/99*

Submarines On The Air

The Submarine Veterans Amateur Radio Association will activate submarine radio rooms in late April to commemorate the anniversary of the submarine service. Upwards of 20 museum submarines in the US and overseas will be on the air the weekend of April 24-25 with volunteer operators. "Some of the museum boats have the radio rooms restored and operable with the original equipment," said Carl Raish, KG0HS, of the SVARA.

Stations will operate on or around 3943, 7243, 14,243, 21,313, and 28,343 kHz. A certificate of participation

is available for those obtaining at least four QSLs from submarines worked. The Submarine Veterans meet on the air daily except Sundays. Raish says the most popular on-air gathering is Saturdays, 1700 UTC on 14,243 kHz. This net



started about 25 years ago by World War II submarine veterans as a means of keeping in touch, and it has remained active ever since.

For a certificate, send copies of at least four cards from submarines

worked to Jim Flanders, W00OG, 1539 California Tr, Plano, TX 75023-4300; jaf@sprintmail.com. For more information, contact Flanders or Carl Raish, 1873 S Tennyson St, Denver, CO 80219; kg0hs@juno.com, or visit <http://www.flash.net/~jflanders/index.html>. (A list of participating museum submarines is available in The ARRLWeb Extra news section on the ARRLWeb Members Only site.) - *via ARRL Letter Online 3/26/99*

Vanity Call Sign Application Fee To Rise Slightly

The cost of applying for an amateur vanity call sign is expected to rise slightly this fall. In a just-released Notice of Proposed Rulemaking involving assessment and collection of regulatory fees for Fiscal Year 1999 (MD Docket 98-200), the FCC has proposed increasing the vanity fee to \$1.42 per year or \$14.20 for the 10-year term. The current vanity fee is \$13. It may be rounded off to \$14. - *via ARRL Letter*

Next VE Session April 16

The next Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club VE session will be held on April 16. Exams will be held at St. Peter's School on 4th Street. Exams will start promptly at 6:30 PM. - KQ2V Please bring the following:

- Photo ID (drivers license)
- Original Amateur Radio License
- Copy of Amateur Radio License
- Original CSCE's
- Copy of CSCE

FCC Fines Operators in Repeater QRM Case

The FCC has used mobile radio direction-finding techniques to solve a longstanding repeater interference problem. The Commission alleges that Michael Gallagher, KB3DHX, of Concord, Massachusetts, and Kornwell Chan, W3CI, of Dresher, Pennsylvania, were maliciously interfering with the Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club 2-meter repeater, W3QV, and has levied fines on the two operators. On multiple occasions in February, personnel from the FCC's Philadelphia office traced radio transmissions to a vehicle said to be occupied by the operators in question. Both licensees have been issued Notices of Apparent Liability for \$7500.--FCC -

Book Donation To Library



BARC and the Plaza Mall Radio Shack donated the book "Now You're Talking" to four libraries in the area. Books were presented to: Willie Nelms of the Sheppard Memorial Library, Melissa Mills of the Farmville Library, Patricia Nichols of the Ayden Library and Valorie Hoffman of the Winterville Library. We hope to make the book donation an annual tradition. Many thanks to Joyce Griswell, KF4RBJ, manager of this Radio Shack. Pictured l. to r. are Joe Melton, WB4SLF, Melissa Mills and Murray Merner, K4MHM.

FCC Sets Aside New Yorker's Ticket

The FCC has set aside a new Technician grant to Raymond S. Graham, KC2EQQ, of Bronx, New York, while it evaluates allegations of earlier unlicensed radio operation. A letter to Graham March 11 from the FCC's Riley Hollingsworth noted that Graham had been formally warned about unlicensed operation on January 6. Graham's Technician license was issued February 17.--FCC - via ARRL Letter Online

Michigan Ham Called For Retesting

The FCC has asked Joseph Walker, W8JCW, of Gaylord, Michigan, to retake his General and Advanced class amateur examinations under an ARRL-VE team. Walker must complete the retest by May 15. The FCC said that if he fails to appear for retesting, his license will be canceled.--FCC - via ARRL Letter Online 3/19/99

Special Canadian Call Sign

The call sign XL3D has been assigned for use on the 25th anniversary of the Ontario DX Association for the period March 25 to April 25, 1999.--RAC - via ARRL Letter Online 3/19/99

VY0 Becomes Effective April 1

The new Canadian Territory of Nunavut, VY0, comes into effect on April 1, 1999. To reflect this new addition, Nunavut will become a separate multiplier in the two RAC Contests, commencing with the RAC Canada Day Contest on July 1, 1999.--RAC - via ARRL Letter Online 3/19/99

Meet The Member Harold Bailey, KD4NRB

(Continued from page 1)

Harold had been interested in ham radio for forty years and even subscribed to QST. He became licensed about seven years ago when he succumbed to the constant "urging" of Joe Melton, WB4SLF, and took the test administered by Simon Jaworski, KQ2V. Harold holds an Advanced Class license and is interested in upgrading to Extra Class and spends some time listening to code.

His equipment consists of a Kenwood 241 for two meters and a Kenwood DS 450 S. His antenna is a G5RV in the trees. He likes to participate in the Carolina Coastal Net but doesn't talk much. He tries to make their meetings in Williamston and Morehead City. He enjoys many of the BARC activities.

Harold was married for 47 years until his wife died in May of 1992. He has one son who is not a ham, but does raise hogs. He remains quite active eating lunch with his son every day, church and hanging out with Joe. He also chats on the phone and e-mail.

Here is another post retirement ham who aspired to hamdom for many years. Amateur Radio has provided Harold with an interest and a challenge and is an important connection in his life. Harold has been a strong supporter of BARC and we appreciate his contribution. A little more code speed and we'll have another Extra - go

KD4OFQ **K4AVC**

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FCC'S Riley Hollingsworth Visits ARRL HQ

After six months as the FCC's top Amateur Radio enforcer, Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, says he's pleased with the progress he's made and the support he's received from the amateur community. "I thought it would take a year or two years to be at this point," he told ARRL staff members March 17 during a visit to ARRL Headquarters. "We've had some very good enforcement luck."

Amateur Radio enforcement has been "one of the few victories the Commission has been having these days,"

Hollingsworth said, and he doesn't expect the impending FCC restructuring--including creation

of a new Enforcement Bureau--to affect its course or momentum. At the same time, Hollingsworth expressed some concern that his efforts not be perceived as the FCC "gone crazy" on Amateur Radio enforcement. "I don't want people saying, 'This is too much government,'" he said.

Hollingsworth said that enthusiasm for amateur enforcement has even spread to FCC field personnel, some of whom are hams and who now ask to be included in amateur cases. He pointed to a recent case of interference to a Pennsylvania repeater system that came out of an investigation at the field-office level.

Calling Amateur Radio "a great

natural resource," Hollingsworth said he felt privileged to be in his current enforcement role and was enjoying his work immensely. At this stage in the FCC's latest enforcement initiative, Hollingsworth says he's still making up for the FCC's "long period of neglect" of amateur enforcement. But he said he also looks forward to the day when he's no longer needed. He also said he can appreciate the frustrations of the Amateur Auxiliary during the years of FCC enforcement neglect and he welcomes their cooperation in the future.

...he's still making up for the FCC's "long period of neglect" of amateur enforcement.

In the weeks ahead, Hollingsworth said he hopes to turn his attention to such problems as the incursion of unlicensed operators on 10 meters--the so-called "freebanders" who often stray onto amateur frequencies--as well as the improper marketing of equipment to unlicensed individuals and examination fraud cases. He also plans to add some casual monitoring capabilities at his Gettysburg office. "If they know that we're out there bandsurfing, it will help," he said.

Hollingsworth said he's currently working about a month behind in replying and advised those contacting him to use either a letter or e-mail (rholling@fcc.gov) instead of the telephone.

ARRL officials and staff members were quick to praise

Hollingsworth's successes as well as his approach, which has been a combination of stern sanctions and "jawboning" with alleged offenders to resolve enforcement issues. As a result, he has not had to designate any amateur cases for hearings. "Few hams have the ability to change the hobby radically," ARRL First Vice President Steve Mendelsohn, W2ML, told Hollingsworth. "We're real fond of you." ARRL Educational Services Manager Rosalie White, WA1STO, called Hollingsworth "a huge breath of fresh air" for ham radio.

During his visit, Hollingsworth made a quick contact with an acquaintance on 20 meters from W1AW. He also had the rare opportunity to wield the original Wouff Hong and Rettysnitch--the traditional symbols manufactured and invoked by "The Old Man" during the early years of the hobby to combat poor operating practices. League officials expressed the hope that the experience would provide an additional boost to Hollingsworth's present-day enforcement

President's Corner

(Continued from page 2)

by most of us. Let us know how you can help so we can start planning.

The TEDI BEAR (Tender Evaluation, Diagnosis and Intervention for Better Abusive Response) Walk and International Festival on May 1 also could use some help. These events will probably have taken place before you get you next Ham Chatter so this will be the last reminder. These are great opportunities to help the community and to get exposure. Let Gary, KU4NQ know about the TEDI BEAR Walk and let me know about the Int'l Festival.

Every so often take a look at our goals. I have them in the front of my binder so I see them every time I open it. Those are the kind of things which will keep BARC alive and interesting.

Oh, by the way, it's good to see we hams have our own restaurant - Hams restaurant in uptown Greenville. Check it out on Evans.

Ham radio, pass it on.

Ads Help Support Ham Chatter

Many thanks to John McCoy, K4KBB, for his ad in *Ham Chatter* that he started a few months ago to help offset printing and mailing costs.

Starting with this issue, Starfish Internet Service, a new Internet provider service in Greenville, has placed an ad for a few months. They have been in the Morehead City area for some time now. It is owned operated by KD4OFQ and K4AVC. Plans are to expand with more telephone lines as the customer base grows so there will not be a problem with busy signals. Stop by to see them at 3195 E. Tenth St. Suite C in Greenville or

phone 695-0167. The address of their web site is <http://www.starfishnet.com>.

There have also been donations of stamps and money to help with the expenses of the newsletter. Even with the increase in costs this year, it will cost less than last year because of ads and donations. If anyone knows of a business that may be interested in an ad in *Ham Chatter*, check it out or let us know. I want to thank all for their support because without it, *Ham Chatter* would have had to cut back in size and content this year. -W4YDY

FCC Tackles HF "Splatter" Cases

The FCC has written nearly two dozen Amateur Radio licensees whose 20-meter SSB signals were said to be "unusually wide, overpowered, or both." The FCC's Riley Hollingsworth did not identify the specific licensees involved, but he said some of them were believed to be over-the-road truckers operating mobile. Licensees were in several locations, including Illinois, New York, Mississippi, Arkansas, Puerto Rico, Ohio, Kentucky, North Carolina and Florida. Hollingsworth's letter said information received by the FCC indicates that the stations involved "ignored requests from other licensees operating on adjacent frequencies" to do something about the wide signals. He said the operations in question were believed to be confined to the high end of the 20-meter band, above 14.300 MHz.

A letter from Hollingsworth to 22 Amateur Service licensees requests

"ignored requests from other licensees operating on adjacent frequencies"

fixed and mobile station information about the use of and specifications for any linear amplifiers employed on 20 meters as well as the use of automatic level control (ALC) and mike gain settings.

Hollingsworth cited Section 308 (b) of the Communications Act of 1934 as authority for the inquiry, calling it "our most powerful inquiry tool." He said the section "gives the Commission the authority to require information from a radio licensee during the term of the license that will enable it to determine whether that licensee is qualified to retain a license."

The affected licensees have 20 days to provide answers to the FCC.

Hollingsworth's letter pointed out that hams are prohibited from occupying more than the necessary amount of bandwidth for the particular mode and that hams must use the minimum power "necessary to carry out the desired communications."

New Astro-Ham

The expedition commander of the first International Space Station crew, US astronaut William G. "Shep" Shepherd, has passed his Technician test. He's now KD5GSL. Shepherd will join Russian cosmonauts Yuri Gidzenko and Sergei Krikalev, U5MIR. - via ARRL Letter Online 3/26/99

BY1DX is On The Air

The Beijing-Chaoyang-Nokia Amateur Radio Club, BY1DX, is on the air. With support from Finnish cellular-telephone maker Nokia, the club, located in Beijing's business district in a tall building that overlooks the city, is the first-ever foreign corporate-sponsored Amateur Radio club in China. The station master is Chen Jia Zhuang, BG1CJZ. Martti Laine, OH2BH handles QSLs to his home address: OH2BH, Nuottaniementie 3D20, 02230 Espoo, Finland.--Tim Totten, N4GN - via ARRL

Special Canadian Call Sign

The call sign XL3D has been assigned for use on the 25th anniversary of the Ontario DX Association for the period March 25 to April 25, 1999.--RAC - via ARRL Letter Online 3/19/99

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Via ARNS Bulletin

BARC Monthly Minutes - March 1999

Minutes of BARC meeting of 3/9/99

The meeting was called to order at 7:30. Welcome to new hams Wayne, KG4CCZ, and Kim, KG4CCY, Lukhard and David, KE4SQI, and Todd, KG4CCX, LeMoine.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

The Treasurer, Bob, KE4UGC, noted that we have \$819.48 total in our account, \$261.28 of which is for equipment, leaving \$558.20 as working capital.

The secretary, Lily, KE4UGD, noted the receipt of the Kinston newsletter and read a thank-you letter from Sheperd Memorial Library for the donation of "Now You're Talking" in memory of Jim Hecker, KD4VBX, Chuck Tucker, AD4ZJ, and Albert J. Lalik, AA4WL. Also, thanks to John McCoy, K4KBB, for pictures of the February birthday party.

The President, Murray, K4MHM, said he has spoken to the librarians regarding hams and said there may be an article on the Farmville library donation.

Committee Reports

- a. VOA Site C--no report
- b. Absentee Ballot--Bob, KE4UGC, said the proposal would be brought to the April meeting.
- c. Special Service Club--no report
- d. Special Events--May 1 is both the Tedi Bear Walk and the International Festival. The International Festival should be written up in QST so be on the look-out. The following volunteered to help with one or both of these events: Paul, KS4YF, Brian, KF4MTL, Bernie, WA4MOK, Ken, N8FF, Buster, WO0F, Juanita, KE4JWK, Doug, K4ROK, Br. Simon, KQ2V, Wayne, WD4JPQ, Bob, KE4UGC, Lily, KE4UGD, Gary, KU4NQ, Murray, K4MHM. Please let either Gary or Murray know if you can volunteer. More are needed.
- e. Health and Welfare--no report
- f. Instructor Group--next class will start Sept. 9.
- g. Programs--Jim, KF4VHH, is trying to get a lightning program for April and will continue to try to get Dr. Ed Seykora

back (sunspots)

The May Program is courtesy of Joe, WB4SLF, Harold, KD4NRB, Byron, KA4KGZ, Tommy Lang, WD4PYO, and Bernice, WA4SLD--a repeat of last year's food and Junk-in-the-Trunk. Mark your calendars and many thanks in advance.

h. VE Group--At the last session everybody who took the code test passed: Wayne, KG4CCZ, 5wpm; Bob, KE4UGC, and Lily, KE4UGD, 13wpm; and Murray, K4MHM, 20wpm. Congratulations to all these. Also, three new call signs were issued: KG4CCZ (Wayne Lukhard), KG4CCY (Kim Lukhard) and KG4CCX (Todd LeMoine). More congratulations to our new hams. The next session is April 16 at 6:30PM. Thanks to the examiners for their time and effort.

j. Publicity--keep passing things to Walt, KA4WFS, for dissemination

k. Ham Chatter--Costs are up significantly, to \$825-850.00 from \$700.00, due to an error in our favor for a while. The newsletter runs approximately 10 pages + the stamps. Dave, W4YDY, said he can reduce it to 8 pages for approx. \$750.00 or 6 or fewer pages for even less. If anyone knows of a cheaper printer or where we can get a price break or a donation, please let Dave know. Those willing to receive the Ham Chatter on-line only are Doug, K4ROK, Mike, KD4MTT, Br. Simon, KQ2V, Wayne, WD4JPQ, James, KD4JOV, and Bill Dawson, WA4SLC. Thanks to them. Please let Dave know if you are able to do this.

Mike, KD4MTT, noted that one club went to a quarterly newsletter and 'prompt cards' mailed once a month. Attendance 'promptly' went down. As soon as they went back to their original newsletter-once-a-month, attendance picked up.

Any donations (money, stamps, whatever) would be welcome.

Lily, KE4UGD, noted that of all the newsletters received from other clubs, Ham Chatter is by far the best, in content, appearance, and overall presentation. The web page is equally excellent.

l. Field Day--June 26,27, 1999. Bernie, WA4MOK, will serve as advisor this year, but co-chairs for set-up, food, etc. are still needed.

I. Equipment Committee--Mike, KD4MTT, reported on his search for a good canopy. He looked at the following:

Gothic Arch (Sam's Club), 10x20, 1" metal tubing-not sturdy
E-Z Up - not sturdy
Jerry's - not sturdy
Value-One 10x20 with top & sides with windows; returnable in 30 days if not satisfied. \$199.00

SalesCo. 12x20, 1 3/8" tubing, good in severe weather, \$299.00

TechSupply appears to be same as Value-One, with sides, \$199.00.

Suggestion: That we get one each from TechSupply and Value-One (being sure to include sides), evaluate them and send back the one we don't want. Mike, KD4MTT, volunteered to take care of the TechSupply one.

Motion: Bernice, WA4SLD, moved and Paul, KS4YF, seconded that we let the committee decide what to do and follow through on their recommendation. Motion carried.

New Business

Skywarn announcement made. Two opportunities, Basic on March 11 at 7-9 and Advanced on March 25, 7-9, Belk 103.

An historian is still needed.

Still need help with identifying Pitt County hams. Sheets of names available.

Fund raising--Juanita, KE4JWK, told us that raffle tickets can be printed by Morgan printing at \$75.00/100. In order to make a profit we must sell 3X the amount of prize money offered. Bob, KE4UGC, indicated that as Treasurer he is not comfortable in starting this without seed money, since our operating funds are only \$556.00. James, KD4JOV, made a motion to table this till next meeting. Bob, KE4UGC, seconded. Carried.

Jack Kear, K4MI is now a member of the Altoona,PA, Horseshoe Curve

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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@arri.net

WANTED:

Murray, K4MHM, is looking for: 2 meter mobile rig.

Call 757-3429

FOR SALE: HF Rig.

An Icom IC-730. It is a small solid state HF rig that is good for mobile, portable, or home. I bought this rig from WA4MOK and used it in my truck until I bought a Yaesu FT-900. Price \$400: I also have a SP-520 for sale. It is a speaker that matches the Kenwood TS-520 or TS-820. **Bill Dawson, WA4SLC - 946-4760**

FOR SALE:

MFJ-969 Deluxe VersaTuner II (model with roller inductor, 6 to 160 meters), \$70. Minage B34G 2 meter 35 amplifier with preamp, etc. \$40. Both units barely used, like-new and with manuals. Both for \$100.

John Schultz, W4FA - 355-3415

FOR SALE:

New Tasco 375 power telescope. Still in original box. \$150, you pick up.

Carlton Moseley, W4YVY, Tarboro, NC. Ph: (252) 823 4757

BARC Monthly Minutes

(Continued from page 8)

Club. He takes his copy of Ham Chatter to the meetings. We thank Jim Glisson for bringing Jack over. Jack invites all to visit his antenna farm.

An outstanding program was presented by Phillip Williams, meteorologist for WNCT-TV, Channel 9.

Respectfully submitted

AR Spectrum Protection Act of 1999 Introduced

(Continued from page 1)

replacement spectrum" to Amateur Radio and the Amateur Satellite Service in the event of a reallocation of primary amateur allocations, any reduction in secondary amateur allocations, or "additional allocations within such bands that would substantially reduce the utility thereof" to amateurs.

Mansfield said it's too soon to predict how HR 783 will fare in the new Congress, but said the fact that it has been introduced so early in the session "bodes well for our prospects." He said that a number of the cosponsors from last year already have indicated an interest in signing on again, "so I think we'll have a lot of support."

Mansfield also hopes the bill can take advantage of a desire on the part of the House leadership to move a lot of legislation through this year. "I'm hoping our bill will get caught up in their enthusiasm," he said.

A copy of the measure is available via the Thomas Web site, <http://thomas.loc.gov/> - via *ARRL Letter Online*

Field Day

The biggest event of the BARC year takes place on June 26 and 27 this year. This is a logistical, technical and physical challenge to the club -and fun and memories. We need people to come forward and take leadership positions to pull it all together. Old ham or new, we can all lead to make this a successful event. Those who come forward will find others to back them up and give a hand. Step up to the plate so we can be proud of what BARC does on Field Day. As a result of the Board meeting on March 30, we propose to start small with two HF rigs and two antennas. This should bring it down to a level most of us can deal with. Bernie, WA4MOK chaired and organized the Field Day last year. We hope to build on that. Sub committees could be: Antennas, Site/Shelter, Food/Refreshments. Operators/Logging/Rigs. A big part of the business portion of the April meeting will devoted to organizing for the Field Day. - *K4MHM*

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@sprintmail.com
Help support *Ham Chatter*. Get some ads to offset the higher printing and mailing costs. 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)
- ◆ 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, Wednesday, 2100 on 145.21 MHz
- ◆ Coastal Emergency Linking Net, Wednesday, 2100 on 145.11 MHz and linked repeaters.
- ◆ 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

- ◆ 3.715 1800 hours, slow speed (5-10 wpm)
- ◆ 3.573 1900 hours, high speed (20 wpm)
- ◆ 3.573 2200 hours, slow speed (12-14 wpm), South Carolina/North Carolina

BARC

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 11.....	RARS Hamfest, Raleigh	June 18.....	BARC VE Session @ 6:30PM
April 13.....	Regular Meeting	June 26-27.....	ARRL Field Day
April 16.....	BARC VE Session @ 6:30PM	June 29.....	Board Meeting
April 27.....	Board Meeting	July 4.....	Ham Chatter Deadline
May 1.....	Greenville International Festival	July 13.....	Regular Meeting
May 1.....	Tedi Bear Walk	July 17.....	Cary Hamfest
May 2.....	Ham Chatter Deadline	July 27.....	Board Meeting
May 11.....	Farmville Pig Picking Meeting	August 10.....	Regular Meeting
May 22.....	Durham Hamfest	September 4-5.....	Shelby Hamfest
May 25.....	Board Meeting		
May 29-30.....	CQ WW CW WPX Contest		
May 30.....	Ham Chatter Deadline		
June 8.....	Regular Meeting		

Regular Meeting - 2nd Tuesday @ 7:30 PM
Board Meeting - Last Tuesday @ 7:00 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

April 1999

To:



PO Box 8387
Greenville, NC 27835

Ham Chatter