



Ham Chatter



Volume 34 Issue 2

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Meet The Member Bill Dawson, WA4SLC

Bill had been interested in Amateur Radio when he was in high school in the early 60's and he got his license in 1976 with his first call being WN4SLC. He now enjoys operating HF mobile and tries to work DX on 75 meters because, "it's very hard". His efforts are worth it when he hears that faraway station come back.

His mobile, equipment consists of: Yaesu FT 900 CAT, VHF/UHF Yaesu FT 8000, Larson Dual Band VHF/UHF antenna and a High Sierra HF screw driver antenna. All that stuff is in his big red Dodge truck which kinda looks like it belongs in the fire department. His fixed base includes: an Icom IC 745 for HF, Yaesu FT 8100 for VHF/UHF, and for 220 meters he's got a Kenwood TH 315. Helping get the signal out is a 75 foot

(Continued on page 4)

Next Meeting - February 8

The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club will have its next regular meeting on February 8 at 7:30 PM at St. Peter's School on 5th Street. The program will be about ARES. All members, families and guests are invited to attend. Also, it's BARC's 33rd anniversary! CAKE!

The next board meeting is set for January 25 at 7:00 PM. The meeting is open to all members.

Next VE Session February 18, 2000

The next Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club VE session will be held on February 18. Exams will be held at St. Peter's School on 5th 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
- ◆ Test fee is \$6.65 ** Increased 20¢

Time to Renew BARC Membership

Many Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club members have already paid dues for 2000. The BARC application was inserted in the January issue of *Ham Chatter*. Be sure to turn one in to Lily, KV4AW, to be sure your records are updated and correct. If you don't have an application, you may get one from Lily or go to the BARC Internet site address <http://www.qsl.net/w4amc/application.html> and print one out.

The dues have been increased this year as voted on a year ago.

The March *Ham Chatter* will be the last for those that have not paid up by April 1.

Question Pool Committee Eyes February 1 Release Date

A revised Amateur Radio question pool that reflects the April 15, 2000, restructuring rules could be out by February 1. Chairman Ray Adams, W4CPA, of the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators' Question Pool Committee says the QPC is in "band aid" mode right now and will try to get "something usable into public domain for all three of the new written pools by February 1 or very shortly thereafter."

Adams says that a Technician class syllabus already has been drafted and approved. The various QPC members have been keeping in touch by telephone

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President's Corner - Murray,

The bad weather is not through with us yet - snow and ice - I hope some of you were able to have some fun as well as the extra work it brought. This month brings our 33rd anniversary as BARC. It would be nice if we could have an organized way to preserve that history - an historian would be a valuable asset to our club especially while we still have people who know a great deal about our early days.

I recently read in the Daily Reflector (Jan 15, 2000, page C4) that a church service was being interrupted by interference of their sound system. The content of the interference was described as, "Conversation like that shouldn't be said in any kind of context." It was suspected that citizens band radio was the source. I hope it was not Amateur Radio. You never know who might be listening and what impression you're giving.

We had a great turnout at our last meeting - the subject of license restructuring was of concern. While the cw'ers may be disappointed, there is some good news that people can now upgrade

without the higher code speed requirement (read, no more excuses). I don't anticipate great hordes of people becoming hams either. It seems, for the most part, the hobby has turned from the roots of experimenting with the transmission and reception of RF to more of the use of equipment. Maybe we are the victims of our own technological progress. Things change and so must Amateur Radio - let's make the best of it.

I just got a phone call from a student from our last class. She just passed Elements 2 and 3B. All the members of that class were able to get licenses. I have begun communicating with the high school JROTC programs to see if there is an interest in a new ham class for high school students (not just JROTC). Another good source of students are retired people and people who travel land and sea.

The Strong Angel program that Paul, KS4YF, spoke about at the last meeting sounds exciting and may give us another opportunity to serve our community and get recognition. I hope we all can be of assistance when the call for

manpower is made.

Also in the last meeting, Jim, KF4VHH, mentioned possible upcoming meeting programs. It's a tough job coming up with interesting and new topics. Thanks Jim. Please help him out with suggestions and maybe presentations you could do or help with. Our next meeting, in addition to cake, ice cream and the ARES program will also include the budget for this year. I hope many of you can attend and express your opinion. Remember, the Board is there to help run *your* club. See you there!

We have some members who are having some serious health problems. Our thoughts and good wishes go out to them.

This new year brings a new membership year. Please send in your registration forms and dues so we can get our membership roster completed as soon as possible. We appreciate your continued support.

Ham radio, pass it on.

73,

Murray, K4MFM



Happy Birthday

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

- | | | |
|----|--------|------------------|
| 1 | KE4JWK | Juanita Humbles |
| 7 | KG4CCY | Kimberly Lukhard |
| 9 | W4GDF | Heber Adams |
| 15 | KE4JZU | Gene Underwood |
| 17 | K4ROK | Doug Ferris |
| 18 | KE4JZV | Lynn Ross |
| 20 | WD4JAD | Ron Dale |
| 20 | KE4UGG | Michael Metcalf |

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

Well Wishes

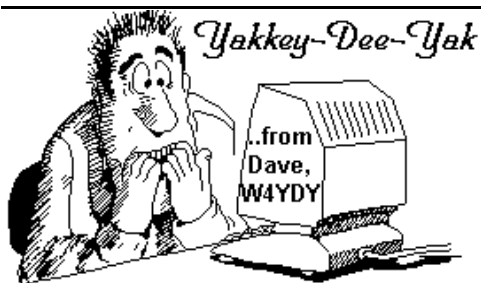
To James Eubanks, KD4JOV. He has a leaky heart valve and will undergo open-heart surgery on Feb. 14. Dr. Ranny Chitwood, K4VBS, will be doing the surgery.

BARC Welcomes New Members

The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club is happy to welcome five new members. They are Bob Hanrahan, Jr., KG4FWB, Sanford P. Steinberg, KG4FTC, Cliff P. Kendall, N3LEX, Ron Dale, WD4JAD, all from Greenville and Larry C. Dendy, KG4BTX, from Ayden.

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A petition had been filed with the FCC by a group of Amateur Radio operators that have no "financial interest in the outcome of these proceedings, nor will they gain additional privileges. They are united in one goal: To ensure that the Amateur Radio Service remains a fundamentally technical service in the 21st century as it has remained throughout the 20th century." The complete petition can be found at <http://www.qsl.net/n51f/>.

It does bring out some interesting points. To quote: "Regarding the General Class, almost no commenters suggested downgrading technical standards. Nevertheless, the

"We request that the Commission partially reconsider the R&O..."

R&O suggests a reduction in the General written test as well. In the two instances where the R&O (Report & Order) describes the number of questions on the written test, the Technician and General tests are both described as "35 questions," while the Amateur Extra Class test is described as "50 *technically oriented* questions" [emphasis ours]. The 'negative pregnant' implies that General and Technician examinations will not contain technical questions. This dichotomy indicates how seriously the R&O would degrade the technical level of this "fundamentally technical" service."

The petition states that "(1) it decreases the proportion of technical questions on the Technician and General written tests, (2) it reduces the cumulative number of questions needed for an applicant to achieve each license, and (3) it also reduces the total size of the question pool." They bring out the fact that to get a Technician license before April 15,

2000, one had to pass 65 questions (includes Novice and Technician exams). The new rules calls for 35 questions, a 46% decrease. The petition requests 50 questions on the new technician exam, a 23% decrease from the present exams. To get a General license now, one must pass a total of 95 questions and the new rules calls for a total of 70 questions, a 26% decrease. The petition requests a total of 100 questions (50 on the Technician and 50 on the General) for a 5% increase. Presently, the Amateur Extra license is required to pass a total of 185 questions and the report and order calls for a total of 130 questions (another 50 question on the Extra exam), a 30% decrease. The petition calls for the new Amateur Extra exam to have 100 questions, an 8% increase over the present system.

The petitioners also say that "Many of the commenters who recommended lowering technical standards stand to gain from increased sales of books, magazines, and equipment. Others recommended lower standards while admitting that they wanted access to the HF bands without meeting any technical requirements. The petitioners believe it is relevant to consider this when evaluating comments."

In their summary, they stated the following. "We request that the Commission partially reconsider the R&O and: (1) retain sufficient question pool categories within 47 CFR Part 97 to maintain, or increase, the proportion of technical and theoretical questions on each written test; (2) set the total number of questions per written test to 50 questions each for the Technician and General Classes, and 100 questions for Amateur Extra Class; (3) allow an applicant to fail only one written element and one telegraphy element per VE session (or per day), or declare that such a rule change is beyond the scope of the present rule making; (4) retain the 20 wpm telegraphy test for the

The Amateur's Code

The original Amateur's Code was written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA, in 1928. Amateur Radio was an honorable activity and it was important how we treated each other. The Code serves as a reminder of good Amateur Radio practice, but it goes farther than that into our everyday lives. There are six elements so one of the elements will be covered every other month for the next year.

The Radio Amateur is:

Considerate ... never knowingly operates in such a way to lessen the pleasure of others.

This element was primarily directed at not deliberately interfering with the operation of another ham. In general, it means to put others before yourself. Many in today's society have become self centered, consideration for the other person has become a low priority. Some people break rules such as going through red lights because the rules don't apply to them although the safety of others is at risk. Others cheat on exams, amateur and otherwise, because it's too hard, but there is no consideration for others who have studied or others who rely people knowing the material. Some hams are disrespectful and outright obscene on the air not caring who hears or what impression it leaves.

Consideration on the other hand, values the other person whether it's on the air or on the ground. You know what it's like to feel considered - special. Applying this element of the Code to Amateur Radio and our everyday lives will go a long way in enhancing our lives and the lives of others. Let us as hams be an example to others. - *K4MHM*

Amateur Extra Class, and do not allow code waivers; and (5) keep "Technician Plus" designation within the FCC's database."

Something to think about! - *W4YDY*



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ARRL Announces New DXCC Awards

As it looks forward to the new millennium, the ARRL DXCC program has added a few new twists of its own, with something for the seasoned DXer as well as the DX neophyte. Inaugurated at the start of the new year were The DXCC Challenge, the DeSoto Cup, the 20-Meter Single-Band DXCC Award, and the DXCC 2000 Millennium Award. Here's a rundown.

The DXCC Challenge is open only to holders of 5-Band DXCC. Individual standings in the DXCC Challenge are based on accumulated contact credits made on all eligible bands within the DXCC program using only current DXCC entities.

This includes credits already received by DXCC for contacts with current DXCC List entities made after November 15, 1945.

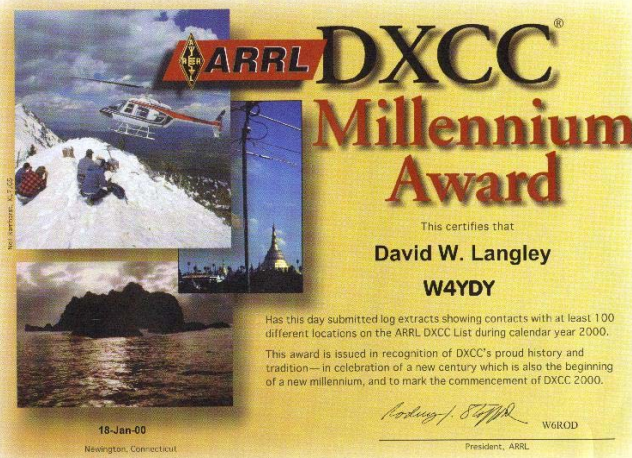
Challenge standings will be updated each year. The deadline to submit is September 30, 2000. Standings will be reported as numbers. Plaques are available for those who accumulate 1500 DXCC Challenge credits. Endorsement bars are available in increments of 500. This year, eligible bands are 160, 80, 40, 20, 10, and 6 meters. The band list will be increased each year until all bands (except 30 meters) are included.

Starting this year, the DeSoto Cup will be awarded to the DXer who is at the top of the DXCC Challenge list on September 30 of each year. The cup is named for Clinton B. DeSoto, W1CBD, who wrote the 1935 QST article that inspired the original DXCC program. A DXer may only be awarded one cup.

The 20-Meter Single-Band DXCC Award is the first of several new single-band awards to be phased in over the next year or so. Contacts with current DXCC entities are eligible for credit, beginning with any QSOs made on or after

November 15, 1945, on any mode. DXCC reports returned after August 1, 1999, show 20-meter contact credits. Those with a 5-Band DXCC issued before April 1, 1992, may submit up to 100 current 20-meter cards with no per-card charges applied.

Here's a DXCC award for everyone. To qualify, work 100 or more current DXCC entities during the calendar year (UTC), any combination of bands or modes is allowed. Here's the best part: You don't have to submit any QSL cards! Applicants must certify to the authenticity of log extracts submitted, however. The DXCC 2000 Millennium Award period began 0000 UTC on January 1, 2000, and continues through 2359 UTC on December 31, 2000.



The above award dated 18-Jan-00 was received after working 102 countries from 2-Jan-00 to 11-Jan-00.

The DXCC 2000 Millennium Award is separate and apart from the traditional DXCC awards program. Qualifying for this award does not give credit for traditional DXCC awards, but DXCC rules still apply. The DXCC 2000 Millennium Award certificate is available to ARRL members and nonmembers.

Official application forms may be downloaded at <http://www.arrl.org/awards/dxcc>. Forms also are available for an SASE (or an SASE plus one IRC for hams outside the US). Send requests to DXCC 2000 Millennium Application, ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111.

Meet the Member Bill Dawson, WA4SLC

(Continued from page 1)

tower with a Mosley Classic 33 with a Yaesu rotator and a Diamond 3 band vertical for VHF/UHF.

Other AR activities include: serving on the Board of BARC, Field Day, new ham class instructor, ARES (he's put in many an hour during emergencies). He is also a volunteer fireman so he's no stranger to emergencies.

Bill graduated from Washington High School, completed a year at Chowan College, attended electronics school in the Army and obtained an Electronics Technology degree from Pitt Community College. He has been an Electronics Technician with the ECU Chemistry Department for almost 27 years. In his past he repaired electronic musical amplifiers part time for 13 years.

Bill is married to Camilla who accompanies him on many of his AR outings. Their family consists of two Ragdoll cats - Winston and Lane at their residence in Clark's Neck Community near Washington, NC.

Bill is quiet. He's knowledgeable and involved. You can rely on him - he'll be there when he says and he gives 100%. BARC and the actives that Bill is involved in are greatly enhanced by his efforts. We appreciate what you do for BARC and AR. - K4MHM

Completed applications must be received at ARRL HQ within one year of the close of the DXCC 2000 Millennium Award period. Applications should be accompanied by \$10 (US funds) to cover the costs of printing, postage, and handling.

For additional information on these new programs, see "New DXCC Awards for the New Millennium" in December 1999 QST, page 47, or visit <http://www.arrl.org/awards/dxcc/00rules.html>.

If you have questions about any of these new awards, contact DXCC Manager Bill Moore, NC1L, bmoore@arrl.org - via ARRL Letter Online 1/14/00

Circle of Courage

I recently became aware of a concept to help troubled kids. It is called the Circle of Courage that is postulated by Martin Brokenleg, a Native American. It can be generalized to any group of people - employment, church, politics, families or, in our case, a club. The four components are:

Belonging: A sense of strong ties and bonding with family and the larger community; a sharing of mutual acceptance and mutual concern.

Mastery: Competence; achievement; positive self esteem.

Independence: Autonomy combined with responsibility and self-control; self-reliance; empowerment and control over one's self and one's destiny.

Generosity: Caring, empathy and altruism; acceptance of the responsibility for the welfare of others.

It is possible to see how this would help in the development of positive children, but it applies to our membership.

Belonging: BARC offers a unique opportunity in Pitt County for people interested in Amateur Radio to come together to share in our interests and be a part of a group.

Mastery: BARC offers the opportunity to learn whether it's a new ham class, monthly meeting, Field Day or just talking with someone on the air.

Independence: BARC offers us the opportunity to take on more challenges within Amateur Radio - conduct a presentation, teach, take a role in Field Day. That experience serves us well as we become more capable as Amateur Radio Operators.

Generosity: BARC offers our membership the opportunity to give back. Most of us wouldn't be here without an Elmer or teacher of some sort. We've all

There's more to Amateur Radio than radio.

needed another set or two of hands. By giving time and effort (and money) we promote a sense of belonging to those who need what we can do for them.

Whoever we are, however old or experienced we are, we are constantly in the process of the Circle of Courage. It is an endless cycle of renewal and growth and we all benefit.

Those elements which result in healthy kids who grow up to be healthy adults, are an important part of the role that BARC serves Amateur Radio, and our community. There's more to Amateur Radio than radio. - *K4MHM*

New Question Pool

(Continued from page 1)

and e-mail since the FCC announced the restructuring rules December 30.

"We will go back over the newly configured pools, refining them and updating in a methodical manner with the order to be decided by the NCVEC when next in session," Adams said this week. He said the revised question pools will follow the established format.

After April 15, 2000, the FCC will only issue Technician, General, and Amateur Extra class licenses. Novice and Advanced licensees will retain current operating privileges and may renew indefinitely. Applicants desiring HF privileges will only have to pass a 5 WPM Morse code test. Current Amateur Radio study materials remain valid at least until the new rules become effective in April.

The new licensing regime has four examination elements: Element 1, the 5 WPM Morse code test; Element 2, a 35-question Technician test; Element 3, a 35-question General test, and Element 4, a 50-question Amateur Extra test.

Frequently Asked Questions on restructuring are available at <http://www.arrl.org/news/restructuring/faq.html/>. A copy of the entire Report and Order (FCC 99-412) is available at <http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/wt98-143ro.pdf> or at http://www.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/1999/db991230/fcc99412.txt. - *via ARRL Letter Online*

Long-Distance Rescue Via Morse Code

Gene Nailon, K5DLE, reports a ham in the Rockies has a fellow amateur in Oklahoma and the Morse code to thank for helping after he fell ill during a QSO December 17. Larry Watson, W5EIU, in Oklahoma City answered a CQ on 3710 kHz from the Wyoming ham. They had been talking for about 15 minutes when the Wyoming op told Watson: "I think I'm having a heart attack, and I can't get to the phone."

After that, his transmission broke off, and Watson was unable to raise him further. About the same time, Jim Caldwell, WJ0C, of Waterloo, Iowa, broke in. WJ0C was able to look up the



full name and location of the Wyoming ham and relay the information to Watson, who called the police in the Wyoming town to alert them to a potential medical emergency. It turned out they were right.

The Wyoming ham--whose name and location were unavailable--was hospitalized, and the prognosis was said to be

good. Watson, first licensed at age 13 in 1954, says this was a first for him. (By the way, both Watson and Nailon belong to Central Oklahoma Chapter 63 QCWA.)--Gene Nailon, K5DLE - *via ARRL Letter Online 1/17/00*

North Carolina QSO Party

Again this year, the Alamance ARC is sponsoring the North Carolina QSO Party on February 26-27. Times of operation both days are from 1200Z to 2359Z. For more details, check out the Alamance web site at <http://www.netpath.net/~n4mio/qsoparty.htm> or write to NC QSO Party, c/o K4EG, Box 3064, Burlington, NC 27215.

Some BARC members have expressed interest in this contest. One might even break the record of W4YDY last year with more than 10 contacts and scoring better than ninth! (There were nine entries in that category!!!)

Malicious Interference Cases Top FCC List

As the latest batch of FCC correspondence reveals, malicious interference cases continue to comprise the bulk of amateur enforcement cases facing FCC Special Counsel for Amateur Radio Riley Hollingsworth. Recent allegations of deliberate and malicious interference have involved both HF and VHF/UHF operation. Here's a sampling.

On December 30, 1999, the FCC wrote Amateur Extra licensee Frederick J. Roll, NU5M, enclosing a tape recording it said was of a November 13, 1999, QSO between NU5M and KC1ZQ on 14.313 MHz that allegedly included harassing behavior. Hollingsworth said the tape was made by the FCC's High-Frequency Direction Finding Center in Columbia, Maryland. The FCC requested that Roll provide a full explanation of the transmissions and said his response would be used to determine what action the FCC would take in the matter. The FCC also set aside a recent vanity call sign grant to Roll, pending the outcome of the case.

The FCC put Amateur Extra licensee Arthur Visser, W9ART, on notice December 30 that it intends to designate his license for revocation if it learns of additional allegations of malicious interference by the licensee. The FCC says it's received "numerous complaints regarding malicious interference and jamming" apparently originating from Visser's station on 3.950 MHz, most recently on Christmas Eve. The FCC had issued Visser a Warning Notice January 8, 1999, regarding similar allegations. Hollingsworth told the ARRL January 6, 2000, that he and Visser had been in touch by telephone "in an effort to resolve the issues" that led to the FCC letter.

Meanwhile, the FCC wrote General licensee Jeffrey J. Pipenur, WA8IKW, in late December, setting aside his license renewal, granted last October 19. Hollingsworth told Pipenur that

the FCC had monitoring evidence indicating that the licensee has "deliberately and maliciously interfered with radio operations of other amateur licensees on 3.865 MHz" last April 13 and 14 and last November 21. The FCC also has sent Pipenur tape recordings of his April 1999 transmissions and requested his response. "This matter will have to be resolved before we can make a decision on your renewal application," Hollingsworth told the licensee.

Hollingsworth told the ARRL that the FCC has received renewed allegations of VHF repeater interference in connection with Anthony J. Barben Jr, N2WNF, of Brooklyn, New York. In

June 1997, Barben consented to a 15-month license suspension as part of an FCC effort to resolve a rash of interference cases in the New York

City-Long Island area. The suspension followed accusations of willful and malicious interference, using obscene or indecent language and failure to identify. On December 28, 1999, the FCC requested that Barben retake his Technician class Amateur Radio examination under the supervision of FCC personnel by January 30, 2000.

Other repeater interference cases involved two stations in California. The FCC sent Advanced licensee Jensen W. Woods, AH6MX, a Warning Notice for alleged interference with the KC6OKA repeater system in the LA area. Another Warning Notice went out to Technician licensee Gary R. Dent, KE6JUV, for alleged interference to an ATV repeater.

Hollingsworth has said he plans to make more use of the FCC's High-Frequency Direction Finding Center to track down rulebreakers in the coming year. In addition, Hollingsworth now has enhanced monitoring tools at his Gettysburg office. - *via ARRL Letter Online 1/14/00*

League Officer Elections Set Musical Chairs in Motion - New Roanoke Director

Officer elections at the January ARRL Board of Directors meeting generated a ripple effect of vacancies within the ARRL hierarchy. The elevation of West Gulf Director Jim Haynie, W5JBP, to the League presidency set off a game of musical chairs that saw Vice Director Coy Day, N5OK, accede to the director's slot, creating a vacancy in the West Gulf Vice Director's chair. Haynie has appointed Dr David A. Woolweaver, K5RAV, of Harlingen, Texas, to be the new Vice Director. Dr Woolweaver is a periodontist in private practice.

Haynie filled vice directors' openings in the Atlantic and Roanoke divisions from within the section manager ranks. In the Atlantic Division, Director Kay Craigie, WT3P, was elected a Vice President, and Vice Director Bernie Fuller, N3EFN, moved up to Director. Western Pennsylvania SM Bill Edgar, N3LLR, has been appointed as the new Atlantic Vice Director. In the Roanoke Division, Director John Kanode, N4MM, was elected a Vice President, and his second-in-command, **Dennis Bodson, W4PWF**, moved into the top slot. South Carolina SM **Leslie Shattuck Sr, K4NK**, has been tapped to replace Bodson as Roanoke Vice Director.

Replacing Edgar as Western Pennsylvania SM will be John V. Rodgers, N3MSE, of Butler. In South Carolina, Patricia Hensley, N4ROS, of Richburg will succeed Shattuck.

It's been a good month for Edgar. A Tech Plus licensee, Edgar recently passed all of the written elements he'll need to upgrade to Amateur Extra when the new FCC licensing rules go into effect April 15.

Meanwhile, Puerto Rico will get a new section manager as a result of a resignation. ARRL Field and Educational Services Manager Rosalie White, WA1STO, has appointed Victor Madera, KP4PQ, to replace Raul Escobar, KP4ZZ as Puerto Rico's SM. Escobar stepped down for personal reasons. - *via ARRL Letter Online 1/28/00*

Hollingsworth now has enhanced monitoring tools at his Gettysburg office.

Pending Restructuring Sparks Bumper Crop, Confusion at VE Session

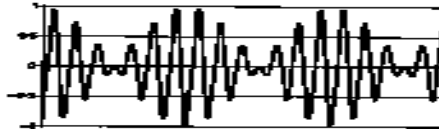
ARRL-VEC Volunteer Examiner Emmett Freitas, AE6Z, of San Jose, California, says his team held its largest VE session in years January 15. "Most were Advanced class hams seeking testing on Element 4B," he said. "We tested 24, with four of them failing." One woman who showed up hoping to file an upgrade application prior to the April 15 implementation date. "When I started to check her in, I found that she had a current Tech Plus license and license copies proving she had been licensed [as a Technician] on March 21, 1987," he said. The woman wanted to prove her eligibility to become a General after April 15 but have it on record now. Freitas advised the applicant to return to a VE session after April 15, present her documentary proof, and have the VE team process her General upgrade application then. Freitas also says he encountered a lot of confusion among some hams about what happens after April 15. "Technicians, in some cases, are misinformed," he said. "Some think that a Tech Plus license can be upgraded to General without further testing, and some think that a (no-code) Technician can do the same," he said. (Wrong on both counts --Ed.) --Emmett Freitas, AE6Z - via *ARRL Letter Online* 1/21/00

FCC Shifts License Color

The ARRL has learned that the FCC's Gettysburg office has begun issuing new Amateur Radio license documents on blue paper instead of the beige stock that hams have become accustomed to for many years. Wireless Telecommunications Bureau personnel say the new licenses are printed on whatever color "safety paper" stock they have available. "Our policy/procedure is to print all licenses on safety paper, so they can be easily identified as our official documents, but we don't have a requirement as to the color," an FCC spokesperson told the ARRL. "When the last shipment was received they were blue." The change apparently has nothing to do with the recently announced FCC license restructuring. - via *ARRL Letter Online* 1/14/00

FCC Amateur Radio Enforcement Log

CHARLOTTE, NC: The FCC sent an Advisory Notice January 11, 2000, to Novice licensee Gary L. Hattaway, KC4DRA, citing reports that the licensee was observed operating on the 70-cm band. FCC Special Counsel for Amateur Radio Enforcement Riley Hollingsworth reminded the licensee of the frequency limitations that apply to Novice class licensees and said that failure to adhere to those frequency limitations could jeopardize his Amateur Radio license.



GREENSBORO, NC: The FCC notified Technician licensee Charles T. McLees Jr, KG4AXY, on January 3, 2000, to set aside his Amateur Radio license and return his application to pending status. McLees' license was granted November 20, 1998, but FCC Special Counsel for Amateur Radio Enforcement Riley Hollingsworth noted that the FCC may set aside an "erroneous grant" that resulted from "an inadvertent, ministerial processing error." Hollingsworth said the FCC has monitoring information alleging that McLees has been operating on the 160-meter band on 1.998 MHz, a frequency not available to Technician class licensees. The FCC alleged that such operation has occurred several times since December and gave McLees 20 days to explain. Hollingsworth reminded McLees that he has no authority to operate after receipt of the January 3, 2000, FCC letter. - via *ARRL Web*

Spread Spectrum Inventor, Actress Hedy Lamarr, Dies

Hedy Lamarr, the sultry, sexy screen star of the 1930s and 1940s who also conceived the frequency-hopping technique now known as spread spectrum, has died. She was believed to be 86.

Born Hedwig Kiesler in Austria, Lamarr came to the US in 1937 after being signed by MGM. Among her most successful films was the 1949 *Samson and Delilah*, directed by Cecil B. DeMille.

In her 1992 book *Feminine Ingenuity*, Lamarr describes how she came up with the idea of a radio signaling device for radio-controlled torpedoes that would minimize the danger of detection or jamming by randomly shifting the frequency. She and composer George Antheil developed the concept and received a patent for it in 1942.


The concept never saw fruition during World War II, but when the patent expired, Sylvania developed the idea for use in satellites. Spread spectrum also has found applications in wireless telephones, military radios, wireless computer links, and Amateur Radio experimentation.

"I read the patent," Franklin Antonio, chief technical officer of the cellular phone maker Qualcomm Inc, said in 1997. "You don't usually think of movie stars having brains, but she sure did."

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BARC Monthly Minutes - January 2000

BARC Minutes of 1/11/00

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 by President Murray Merner, K4MHM. He expressed appreciation to Tom Parsons, W4TEP, as past president and Gary Gasperini, KU4NQ, as past 1st Vice President for their efforts for the club, and also to the new board members.

The minutes of the November and December meetings were approved.

Treasurer's Report: As of 12/31/99 the club had \$1442.67 in the checking account. Of that, \$17.00 is earmarked for Ham Chatter, leaving \$1425.67 as working capital. Bob, KE4UGC, noted that anyone who wishes to examine the books is welcome to do so at any time. He will have the new year's budget to review for the next meeting.

Secretary's Report: Newsletters from Kinston and Pamlico clubs are available. Also received information on the Charleston Hamfest, the Dayton Hamfest, and Operation Sunshine.

Committee Reports:

1. VOA site C---Paul, KS4YF: Paul provided information on an upcoming event as follows: The Medical School staff was impressed with the activities of hams during Hurricane Floyd. They have joined with the Navy to attempt to provide a packaged disaster response team (telemedicine) with hams to aid in communications. The Navy exercise is called Strong Angel and will happen in June, about 1 1/2 weeks before Field Day. A team in Hawaii will communicate with another in Greenville. To facilitate this effort, a separate permanent station will be set up at the hospital here with \$10,000 provided as start-up. HF and UHF operations will be carried out. The hospital is negotiating with the Navy on sending people to Hawaii. A follow-up exercise will be held in the fall in El Salvador.

The VOA Site C could be used for this event, but GSA still owns the towers. Moreover, they are all painted with lead-based paint and can't be removed or sold because of this. ECU owns the building site and the parking lot

up to the fences for 5 years and is calling it the Millennium Campus.

2. Special Service Club--no report

3. Special Events--Gary, KU4NQ, listed upcoming events: Purple Pigskin Pigout, March; Dogwood Festival and Grifton Shad Festival, April; International Festival, May; Watermelon Festival, July or August; Collard Festival, August; and something in Bethel in September. Murray, K4MHM, volunteered to help out with the International Festival. Gary needs volunteers to help set up at festivals of your choice and to spread the word. Gary likes the Dogwood, Watermelon and International Festivals the best, but anyone willing to set up and operate at others is welcome to do so. April is a bad time weather-wise, however.

Gary also mentioned the RAG-CHEW NET which meets on Mondays at 8PM on the 147.09 repeater. Check in and have a chat sometime and see what your fellow hams are doing at work and at play.

4. Instructor Group--Murray is checking out the ROTC cadets to see if any of them might be interested in amateur radio.

5. Programs--Jim, KE4VHH, has some interesting ones lined up for this year. Our program this month was on the restructuring of the ham licensing (see notes at the end for some details of the program). In February it will be ARES and recruitment; in March, KNOTs by Tom, W4TEP; and in April, of course, FIELD Day. Others are in the works for the rest of the year.

6. VE group--Next exam date is FEB. 18, then APRIL 14. April 14 is the last exam date given by BARC before restructuring sets in. Brother Simon is working on a new code test. Also, under the new licensing, you can be a VE when you get your General license.

7. Equipment--Mike, KD4MTT, wants to know what the club wants to do with our old trailer if we get a new one from the hospital. Please think about this and give him your feedback.

8. Ham Chatter--Dave, W4YDY, and Ham Chatter are still going

strong. Please let him know of any sick. Also, Mike, KD4MTT, is the Health and Welfare committee, so refer any sick or needy to him, please.

James Eubanks, KD4JOV, asked to be remembered as he was going in for heart catheterization this week (1/10/00). He has a leaky heart valve and will undergo open-heart surgery on Feb. 14. Dr. Chitwood (also a ham) will be doing the surgery.

9. ARES--Eastern Branch will be moving to the Kinston airport area. They will be doing a recap of the flood on 1/25.

Old Business--

Fund Raiser--Juanita, KE4JWK, and Bob, KE4UGC, reported that the matter should be resolved by Mach and tickets will be sold at the International Festival. The prize(s) will be a weather station or cash.

Historian--A club historian is still needed. Murray noted that Charlie Wells, K4SKI, has scrapbooks that go back to when BARC was the Greenville Amateur Radio Club. There's a lot of history in his collection, so if someone is interested it would be a nice hobby and a valuable one to the club.

PC Ham Identification--Murray still has lists of the hams in Pitt County and would like some help in calling these folks to see if they are still active and if they might like to join BARC. Get a page from Murray and maybe renew some old acquaintances.

This Friday, Jan. 14, Murray and the hospital attorney are going to finalize (hopefully) the trailer the hospital is giving us. This will be a 12' box trailer which we will have to outfit with shelves, etc., to suit our needs. We will need insurance on it.

New Business--

Juanita, KE4JWK, has updated our BARC brochure and we need to have more copies made. Gary, KU4NQ, moved that brochures be printed not to exceed \$50.00 in cost. Gene, KE4JZU, seconded. Approved.

Murray requested a BARC

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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@arrl.net

For Sale:

Butternut "Butterfly" beam, HF-5B - 20,17,15,12,10 meter operation. Have manual. Lightweight, survived hurricanes on pushup mast. Asking \$150 or best reasonable offer. Gerry, K4IDD, 756-4102 evening or weekend. Also gclayton@greenvillenc.com.

Actress Hedy Lamarr, Dies

(Continued from page 7)

Lamarr lived in an Orlando, Florida, suburb in recent years and shunned publicity.

A more-detailed version of Lamarr's role in spread spectrum is described in the IEEE book *Spread Spectrum Communications*, published in 1983. --thanks to André Kesteloot, N4ICK and Bill Ricker, N1VUX - via *ARRL Letter Online 1/21/00*

Motorola Researching Methanol Batteries

According to a Reuters report, Motorola researchers and scientists at the Los Alamos National Laboratory are working on a new mini-battery for wireless devices. The fuel cell, which uses methanol as the power source, reportedly will last 10 times longer than batteries used today. But, consumers will have to wait for at least three years to see them in stores. The battery will be packaged in a see-through tube, so users can check their battery supply at any given time. The cost of the methanol batteries should be in line with current power supplies, Motorola says.--Reuters - via *ARRL Letter Online 1/28/00*

BARC Monthly Minutes

(Continued from page 8)

stamp with the President's name, address, phone # and e-mail address (of the club) on it, to cost no more than \$10.00. This would be changed when the president changes. Joe, WB4SLF, moved approval and Gary seconded. Approved.

Program:

Effective 4/15/00 there will be three (3) classes of amateur radio license: Tech, General and Extra. Code speed will be 5 wpm. An amateur with an Advanced license will be able to prepare and administer General class exams. The question pool will be changed as follows:

Present designation/ # questions	New designation/ # questions
3A/30	2/35
3B/30	3/35
4B/40	4/50

No privileges will be lost and none will be gained automatically.

Upgrading strategy for those who might be interested:

If you are a Tech: take the General + 5 wpm **before** 4/15, turn in your CSCE **after** 4/15, pay another fee. You are now a General class.

If you are a General: take the new Extra **after** 4/14. This way you avoid having to take the Advanced exam.

If you are Advanced: take the current Extra **before** 4/15, turn in your CSCE **after** 4/15, pay another fee. You are now Extra class.

The reasoning behind this is that the old exams are shorter. Also, you no longer have to worry about any code beyond 5 wpm.

The Washington club tests on alternate months from BARC. Check ARRL web site for other sites and times of testing. Hamfests are also places where you can be tested. The revised question pools should be out well before 4/15.

Respectively submitted,

Lily Fainter, KV4AW

Thanks to the anonymous donor for the roll of stamps for *Ham Chatter*. A great BARC member!

Commercial Ad Rates

1/8 page, Business Card Size
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Send ads to: **Ham Chatter
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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)
- ◆ Kinston Amateur Radio Society Net, 1,3,4 Tuesdays, 2000 hrs. on 145.47 MHz., W4OIX repeater in Kinston.
- ◆ Eastern North Carolina Traffic Net, Every night, 2030 on 146.685 MHz.
- ◆ New Bern Amateur Radio Club/ Eastern NC 220 Association for the WD4JMS & WA4DAN Net, Monday, 2000 on 146.61 and 224.84 MHz
- ◆ Wilson Amateur Radio Club Net, Monday 2030 on 146.76 MHz.
- ◆ Piedmont Coastal Traffic Net, Nightly 2030 on 146.88 MHz.
- ◆ Newport WFO SKYWARN Net, 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

- ◆ 3.695 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

BARC

February 8 **Regular Meeting**
February 18 BARC VE Session @ 6:30PM
February 19-20. ARRL CW DX Contest
February 26-27. NC QSO Party
February 26-27. CQ WW SSB 160M Contest
February 29 **Board Meeting**
March 4 Ham Chatter **Deadline**
March 4-5. ARRL SSB DX Contest
March 14 **Regular Meeting**
March 25-26. CQ WW SSB WPX Contest
March 28 **Board Meeting**
April 1. Ham Chatter **Deadline**

April 2 Down East Hamfest - Kinston
April 9. Hamfest - Raleigh
April 14. BARC VE Session @ 6:30PM
April 11. **Regular Meeting**
April 25. **Board Meeting**
April 29. Ham Chatter **Deadline**
May 9. **Regular Meeting**
May 27-28 CQ WW CQ WPX Contest
May 30. Ham Chatter **Deadline**
June 16 BARC VE Session @ 6:30PM

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

Next Meeting
February 8

February 2000

To:



PO Box 8387
Greenville, NC 27835

Ham Chatter