



# Ham Chatter



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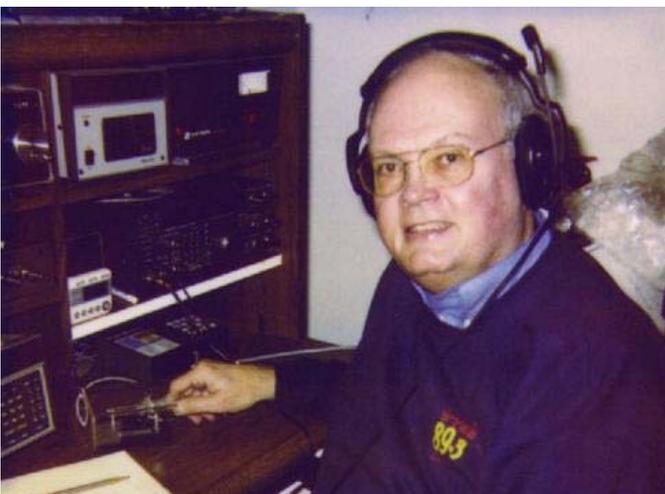
Editor, Dave Langley, W4YDY - Email: w4ydy@arrl.net Contributing Editor: Murray Merner, K4MHM

## Meet The Member Gerry Clayton, K4IDD

If you've been to a Volunteer Examiner testing session you've seen Gerry especially if you were taking a code test. Gerry specializes in the code test and his calm nature does much to ease the anxiety of the test taker. He became a VE because of the help he had received during the times he was being tested.

Gerry was born in Jacksonville, FL and by way of a number of locales including University of California, Berkeley (1964 to 1973 - Can you say political unrest?), Vanderbilt in Nashville, TN. He and his wife Dorothy came to ECU in Greenville in 1981. He was a professor in Political Science, then in Continuing Education. In 1989, he was transferred to the Admissions Office and

*(Continued on page 6)*



Gerry Clayton, K4IDD

## Next Meeting - May 9

*The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club will have its next regular meeting on May 9 at 7:30 PM at St. Peter's School on 5th Street. The program will be planning for Field Day led by the chairman, Pat Sutton, KD4NNA. Also an update on Strong Angel. All members, families and guests are invited to attend.*

*The next board meeting is set for May 30 at 7:00 PM. The meeting is open to all members.*

## A Testimonial to KQ2V

Br. Simon Jaworski, KQ2V, has announced that he will be leaving Greenville on June 15. There are very few of us who have not been influenced by Simon. I attended Simon's class a few years ago which put me on the road to licensor. I've considered him to be my

Elmer giving me advice about equipment, antennas and answering my questions. I'm sure there are lots of you out there whom Simon has helped or inspired. We'd like to publish your comments in next month's Ham Chatter. (They may be edited for length, etc.) Send me your thoughts - email is best at: k4mhm@arrl.net or you can fax me at 816-7843. - K4MHM

## Special VE Session May 5, 2000

A special Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club VE session will be held on May 5. It will be held at St. Peter's School on 5th Street. **No exams will be given.** Only paperwork upgrades will be processed. A CSCE or proof of a Technician license before March 21, 1987 will be required. The session will start promptly at 6:30 PM. The next regular session with exams will be June 16. - 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

## W4TEP Birthday Party!

All Hams are invited to attend a M\*A\*S\*H B\*A\*S\*H to celebrate Tom Parsons' 70th birthday. The party will be at 210 Louis Street (Dave & Bonnie's) on May 14, 2000 at 17:00 hours. Hamburgers and hotdogs will be provided. Please bring a side dish, dessert or drinks. Gag gifts only. For more info call Dave or Bonnie at 353-7161.

# President's Corner - Murray,

Last month we had a program on Strong Angel presented by David Balch and Billy Igoe. This project can be test of our technological skill and our ability to work together to make a good thing happen. If we are successful there will be a lot of winners - ECU School of Medicine, BARC, ham radio and future victims of disaster. A number of you have already stepped forward and offered to do what you can to help - that's great.

You probably remember the saying, "Remember the Alamo." Well, get any where near **Patrick, KD4NNA**, and you'll hear, "Remember June 24 and 25." Patrick did a fine presentation on the upcoming Field Day at our last meeting. The man is energized and organized! Let's support him as he leads us through this challenging, but enjoyable annual project. He needs people who will put their name on the line to help. Let him know what you can do, don't wait for him to ask you. This is the biggest Amateur Radio event of the year - it's *our thing* - if we all do some part no one will have to do a bunch.

The fund raising committee has come up with a raffle. Please do your best of sell tickets so we can buy the

equipment we need. Thanks

Early this month we did two events - the International Festival and the TEDI Bear Walk. That involvement and visibility will help the community notice us more and recognize our value. Thanks to all who helped out.

Spring has gotten a good hold. The temperature has been up and down; the precipitation has been off and on and

## ...the biggest Amateur Radio event of the year...

the hay fever abounds. Spring is here and it does get the juices going. I lost my dipole during Floyd and when thinking about putting it back up again, I wanted one of those manufactured center pieces which would hold in the ladder line. I got it at the Raleigh hamfest. I waited almost too long - now the trees had leaves. I borrowed **Gary, KU4NQ**'s sling shot and after some practice was able to hit the spot on with the first shot. The dipole's up and I'm making plans to cement in the base of my tower for the last weekend in May or the first one in June (weather per-

mitting).

Testing has been going hot and heavy we will have a number of upgrades in the club this year. I was good to see **James, KD4JOV**, up and about enough to come out and take a test (he passed), but he is still quite weak. We hope to see you again soon James.

**Jim, KF4VHH**, continues to work on the meeting programs. In May we'll again talk about the Field Day, for June, Marvin Daugherty, the weather man from WITN-TV, Channel 7, is being invited, a going away party for Simon and in July possibly a tour of VOA Site A with the Kinston club. Come join us.

Ham radio, pass it on.

73,

*Murray, K4MFM*

## Well Wishes

To **James Eubanks, KD4JOV**. He is recovering from heart surgery.



## Happy Birthday

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

14	W4TEP	Tom Parsons
19	KG4BTX	Larry Dendy
19	KB3KR	Lawry Bennetts
29	KV4RF	Bob Fainter

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

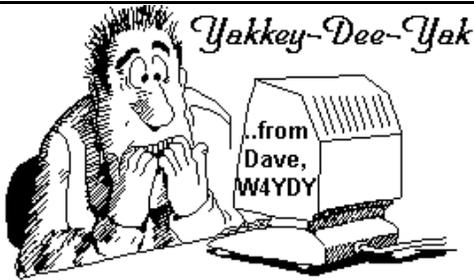
## Equipment Fund Raising

The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club is having a fund raising for equipment. For a one dollar donation, you will qualify for a drawing at the BARC Field Day on June 24, 2000. Cash prizes of \$250 for first, \$100 for second and \$50 for third place will be awarded. It is hoped that each club member will take at least 20 tickets or more.

Contact Juanita Humbles, KE4JWK, at 355-1051.

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**“Morse code is not dead!”**

That was in reply to a “Dear Abby” column in which she stated that Morse Code had “gone the way of the automobile crank, the powdered wig and Emerson television sets.” She also said the “we’ll just have to accept it, and accept with good faith the more advanced technology that has replaced it.” In her column printed in newspapers on April 19, 2000, a former telegrapher told her that “Morse code is not dead!” He stated that they have chapters in many cities of the United States and have retired railroad and Western Union telegraphers as well as members who are Amateur Radio operators.

Abby replied that she was pleased to know that the announcement of the demise of Morse code was premature and that is still in use. She also asked how to say “sorry” in Morse code!

If anyone believes that Morse code is dead, just listen on the Amateur Radio bands anytime and you can here activity. During contests, if you haven’t listened, you wouldn’t believe the activity on CW. Even on the recent 160 meter CW contest, I could hear hundreds in just a few kilohertz.



I missed hearing the talk by Special Counsel for Amateur Radio Enforcement Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, at the Raleigh hamfest in April. I understand that most everyone enjoyed it very much. A couple of topics he talked about were passed on to me. One item he talked about was how the FCC could track down offending stations. He said that they have a monitoring stations near Washington, DC and it could track a station location within 3 miles anywhere in the United States. Then they could take their truck in the area and track it to the building that the offending station was in. You might think there might have to have a signal for a while to track it. They can track it with a signal that is on the air for **less than a second!** Those that are not complying with Part 97 of the FCC Regulations had better not think they have a free ride.

Another topic Hollingsworth covered concerned the bad language and trash talk on the bands. He stated that there were people monitoring the Amateur Radio bands, especially 75 meters, and recording the conversations of the people that do not care what they say on the air. They record the profanity and other dirty trash talk. Then they take these recordings to Washington, DC and contact their Senators and Representatives and inform them that the Amateur Radio bands are being misused. They ask for the bands to be taken away from all Amateur Radio operators and let the commercial companies use them. That would be one way to clear the frequencies of the ones that use profanity on the air. Personally, I still don’t understand why a person that has earned an Amateur Radio license, if he did, still doesn’t know the English language well enough to use proper adjectives without using profanity! - W4YDY

**“Morse code is not dead!”**

**The ARRL thanks the ARRL volunteer**

National Volunteer Week is April 18-24. Maybe you’re one of the thousands of ARRL-VEC Volunteer Examiners (or those who rapidly became one to help out on April 15). Maybe you’ve stood in the freezing cold to provide communications during a marathon, or joined with other ARES volunteers to provide assistance following a natural disaster. Maybe you’re one of hundreds of Volunteer Counsel, ready to help hams with legal questions. Maybe you write promotional articles about Amateur Radio for your local newspaper or community web site. In the thousands of volunteer roles ARRL members are active in, you are still one in a million to us! In the world of ham radio the ARRL volunteer has had a long and distinguished history. Hams have given countless hours to help the general public in times of need—and also to further the enjoyment and education of fellow hams. You’re the engine that sustains the hobby and will carry it into the future. Thank you sincerely for giving your time, energy, creative efforts, and concern for the welfare of others. ARRL recognizes how vital you are!--Mary Lau, N7IAL - via ARRL Letter Online 4/21/00

**Email to the Editor**

Thanks Dave,

We appreciate receiving your excellent newsletter online (BARC Ham Chatter Online). It’s always full of interesting information. Especially your “Meet the Members” column. Ideas like this are wonderful to share with other clubs, and will soon be added to the many features on our Club Companion web page (<http://www.arrl.org/field/club>). Thanks for sharing.

73 and keep up the good work.

Dan Miller, K3UFG

ARRL Field & Educational Services Correspondent

Email: [dmiller@arrl.org](mailto:dmiller@arrl.org)



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## FCC to Generals: Advanced Subbands are OFF LIMITS

The FCC says a lot of newly upgraded General class licensees have begun asking if they may operate in the current Advanced class subbands now that the new amateur rules are in place. "The answer is: Absolutely not," said the Bill Cross, W3TN, of the FCC's Public Safety and Private Wireless Division. "No privileges changed for any license class."

Cross pointed out that the Advanced class license did not cease to exist under restructuring, which went into effect April 15, although the FCC no longer accepts applications for Novice or Advanced class licenses. He said current Generals do not earn Advanced class privileges until they upgrade to Amateur Extra class, at which point they earn both Advanced and Extra privileges.

The FCC also says General class operators may hold only Group C (1x3) or Group D (2x3) call signs, as it was under the old rules. Generals are not entitled to apply for or hold Group B (2x2) call signs under the new rules. Some General class operators licensed in US territories have held call signs in this format for many years and may continue to do so.

Cross cautioned newly upgraded licensees to check the revised Part 97 rules carefully to make sure they're not operating beyond their privileges. "Now that they've gotten the license, it's time to look at the real rules," he said.

Amateurs further are reminded that in order to apply for upgraded volunteer examiner privileges or for a vanity call sign reflecting new license status, a licensee first must have been issued an upgraded license grant by the FCC. Interim privileges conveyed by a Certificate of Successful Completion of Examination--or CSCE--are insufficient for these purposes.

Revised FCC Part 97 rules are available on the ARRL Web site.

The FCC this week released the Errata to its December 30, 1999, Report and Order on restructuring. The Errata incorporate minor errors contained in the original R&O. - *via ARRL Letter Online 4/21/00*

## Questions Continue in Restructuring's Wake

April 15 has come and gone, but the flow of questions about Amateur Radio "restructuring" has only slowed somewhat in the intervening days. ARRL-VEC Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, says the most common question these days is: "When can I expect to see my new license grant from the FCC?"

"The answer we give is three to four weeks from the test date, possibly sooner," Jahnke said. As a result of April 15-16 weekend testing and

upgrade processing, the ARRL-VEC anticipates seeing 10,000 or more license applications over the next week or so. "We had some 250 sessions scheduled for April 15, and they average perhaps 50 applicants at each," Jahnke explained.

"Based on gut feelings and a crystal ball, we conceivably could now have 10,000 new Generals and 5000 new Extras hitting the airwaves at roughly the same time," Jahnke speculated. That's just based on the first day or two of upgrading and testing under the new rules.

Other burning questions have had to do with operating privileges. Several callers have wondered if Technicians who pass the 5 WPM Morse code test (Element 1) may then operate on the Novice bands. The answer is yes. Such licensees no longer get a new license class--it would have been Tech Plus under the old rules--but they have the same privileges as current Tech Plus licensees.

At present, while such Element 1 credit provides new privileges for the term of the license, the credit--at least for now--is only good for 365 days for upgrading purposes. The League has petitioned the FCC to make Element 1 credit permanent.

The FCC last week made it clear that General class operators may not operate on the Advanced class subbands, however.

Other callers have wondered if they may use a Certificate of Successful Completion of Examination--CSCE--for

an "old" amateur examination element under the new rules. In most cases, as long as the CSCE is not older than 365 days, it is still valid for equivalent element credit. For example, a Technician holding a CSCE for the "old" Element 3B (General written) may upgrade upon passing Element 1, the 5 WPM Morse code test, provided the CSCE is no older than 365 days. "An unexpired CSCE for

Element 3B is valid for the new Element 3," explained Brennan

Price, N4QX, the newest member of ARRL Field and Educational Services. In addition, unexpired CSCEs for Elements 4A and 4B together still confer credit for the new Element 4 (Amateur Extra written).

"On the other hand, an unexpired CSCE for the Advanced Element 4A by itself will earn, at most, a hearty handshake," explains Price, an experienced VE who's been helping to handle the backlog of inquiries. "Element 4A is no good without Element 4B." - *via ARRL Letter Online 4/18/00*

## New edition of The ARRL's FCC Rule Book available

The rules have changed significantly, and The ARRL's FCC Rule Book (12th Ed) reflects the realities of the regulatory world. Edited by John Hennessee, N1KB, The FCC Rule Book incorporates the complete text of Part 97, including all changes that became effective on April 15, 2000. It has details on license restructuring and everything you'll ever need to know about the Universal Licensing System (at least until the FCC changes it) plus RF exposure guidelines and other technical standards. There's also a greatly enhanced chapter on repeaters, crossband operation and linking. The ARRL's FCC Rule Book is \$12. Order Item 7857. Visit ARRLWeb or call toll-free 888-277-5289. - *via ARRL Letter Online 4/21/00*

## Amateur Radio Survives Transition to Restructuring

Despite dire predictions from some quarters, the "Big Day"--Saturday, April 15, 2000--dawned with nary a "10-4," a "roger beep" or "echo box" to be heard on the Amateur Bands. During the first weekend of restructuring, fledgling Generals and Extras were out in force on the HF bands, trying out their upgraded privileges and proudly appending the required "interim AG" or "interim AE" to each ID.

Amateur Radio has passed another milestone in its long history without incident. For the first time in more than 60 years, applicants for an Amateur Radio license seeking full HF privileges didn't need to take a 13 WPM or higher Morse code exam.

ARRL Hudson Division Director Frank Fallon, N2FF, was among those urging veteran hams to put out the welcome mat to all newcomers. "They will need to learn things that have never been part of any FCC test," he said in an open message published in the division newsletter, *The Hudson Loop*. Fallon advised experienced hams to be generous with their help, to be tolerant of mistakes and to be "friendly and tactful when you offer suggestions for improvement."

Meanwhile, the ARRL-VEC team doesn't need any restructuring reminders. It's been dealing with an increased influx of applications for the past three months.

"You're a little early. It's taking

about a month," Assistant to the ARRL-VEC Manager Wayne Irwin, W1KI, tells a newly upgraded caller whose new privileges have yet to show up in the FCC database or in his mailbox despite having tested March 22.

Irwin points out that VE teams have 10 days to get their paperwork into the mail or shipped to the ARRL-VEC. The 10 days does not include transit time to ARRL, which can be a week or more. The ARRL-VEC has an FCC-imposed 10-day deadline to check over the paperwork and send the files electronically to

### It takes about a month to upgrade the FCC database

the FCC. But the volume of activity as a result of upgrade fever has put things behind the dime. Although it's hired on extra help, ARRL-VEC is still struggling to keep up. "The phones ring relentlessly with inquiries, and the e-mail runneth over," says ARRL-VEC Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ.

Over the weekend, thousands of hams took advantage of strategically scheduled upgrade and paperwork processing VE sessions, including some held at the stroke of midnight. Jahnke says he's gotten word of individual sessions with as many as 135 attendees. ARRL-VEC alone had nearly 250 separate sessions registered for April 15, so he's expecting

an additional paperwork avalanche this week.

Nearly 90 applicants turned out for the Utica Shelby Emergency Communications Association's effort to be the first to offer amateur exams under the new rules. The club began administering tests at the stroke of midnight during its special VE session in Mt Clemens, Michigan. Club spokesperson Paul Valko, W8KC, says the first one in the door was William "Captain Bill" Heaver, KB8QMP, who directs the Mt. Clemens Salvation Army center where the upgrades took place.

Among ARRL Headquarters staff members caught up in the restructuring upgrade wave are Penny Harts, N1NAG, Carole Dimock, N1NAM, and Mary Lau, N7IAL, who upgraded to General, and Mike Tracy, KC1SX, and John Bee, N1GNV who upgraded to Extra.

Perhaps as a point of pride, more than a few hams hustled in the weeks remaining before April 15 in an effort to upgrade under the old rules. One was ARRL Field and Educational Services Manager Rosalie White, WA1STO. Another was Don Wenger, WD8OTT--now "interim AE"--who wrote ARRL HQ to say the League's code tapes did the trick for him after years of struggling with the code. "I hold nothing against a 5 WPM Extra, but for my own personal satisfaction I did it the 'old way.'" he wrote. - *via ARRL Letter Online 4/21/00*

## Next VE Session June 16, 2000

The next Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club VE session will be held on June 16. Exams will be held at St. Peter's School on 5th Street. Exams will start promptly at 6:30 PM.

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



## FCC Enforcement Log

CINCINNATI, OH [UPDATE]: The FCC notified Stuart L. Linder on March 7, 2000, that it was canceling his Amateur Radio license, N8WLY. The FCC had written Linder on October 28, 1999, requesting that he retake his Technician class examination under the supervision of an ARRL-VEC volunteer examiner team by November 30, 1999. That deadline was later extended to February 29, 2000. The FCC said Linder failed to appear for re-examination and, as a result, it was canceling his license. Linder was reminded that continued operation of radio transmitting equipment would lead to enforcement action. *ARRL Web Site*

## Meet The Member - Gerry Clayton, K4IDD

(Continued from page 1)

this past December became an Academic Advisor.

His interest in Amateur Radio began when he was young and interested in shortwave radio and a friend whose father owned a radio/TV repair store got his license. Gerry got his Novice license nine months later in 1955. His abiding interest in Amateur Radio has been listening and talking to places all over the world, "I still get excited when I hear that aurora warble." HF and DX are Gerry's main passions with CW being 80% to 90% of his activity. He notes that his interest in CW may have been initially a case of "mike fright". While overcoming that malady, he still prefers the key. He tells the story of he and his friend on the telephone sending the clicking sound of Morse code. (They were actually ahead of their

**"I still get excited when I hear that aurora warble."**

time since this now would be considered CW internet.)

He got his Conditional license in 1956 during the time of an incredible sun spot cycle.. His rigs were the Hallicrafters S-85 and the Heathkit DX-35 (crystal controlled) with a dipole 15 feet of the ground. Later he got a Heathkit VF-1 VFO for the DX-35. Eventually he built a Heathkit SB-101 (similar to the Collins KWM2) a 100 watt transceiver.

During college and actually until he came to Greenville 1989, his ham activities had declined. In 1988 or 89 he became an Extra. In 1991 he got a Kenwood TS-850S/AT and about a year and a half ago he got a Tencet Paragon with true QSK. His antennas at this time are dipoles, and eight years ago got a Butternut Butterfly and that sold him on beams. He now has a Mosley MP 33 up about 25 feet on a push up mast and a 80 meter Carolina Windom.

His other travels have included a stint in Washington, DC as an intern for Sam "I'm just a country lawyer" Irvin and Charlie Bennett from Florida.

Gerry and Dorothy have one son Jeff, KC4LON, who has his Novice license. Jeff is not too active in Amateur Radio, but he might have an understandable distraction working on his dissertation on British history in London, England.

Gerry hasn't been to many meetings and says he will be attending more in the future, but he certainly serves BARC well as a VE - a key role in the ham community. Thanks Gerry. - K4MHM

## FCC Questions "Captain Truth" Suspect

**"Radio direction finding bearings have led to your residence..."**

The FCC has zeroed in on a Newton, North Carolina, Extra class licensee as a prime suspect in its "Captain Truth" investigation into unidentified Amateur Radio transmissions and malicious interference.

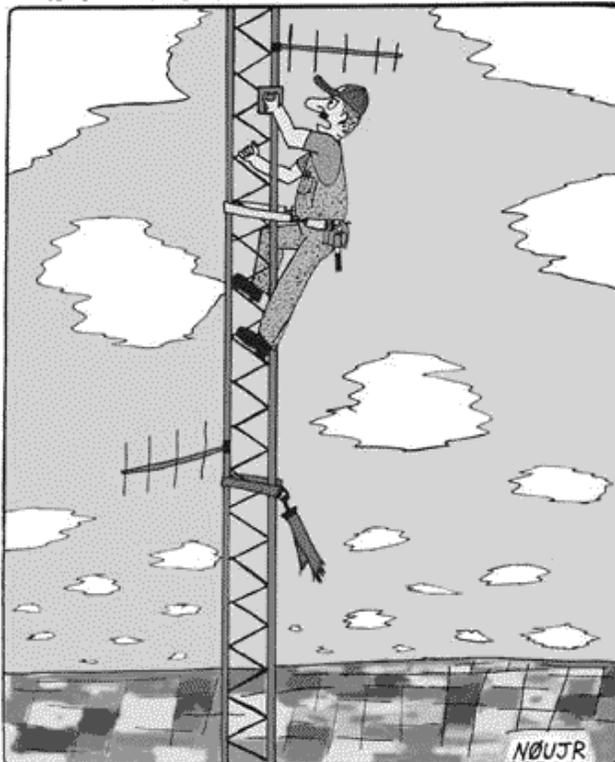
FCC Special Counsel for Amateur Radio Enforcement Riley Hollingsworth wrote John M. Yount, K4QIJ, on March 29, citing FCC and other close-in monitoring evidence to indicate that Yount's station was the source of "malicious interference and jamming" on 20 and 75 meters. "Radio direction finding bearings have led to your residence and antenna at 225 N Gate Road in Newton," Hollingsworth told Yount. The FCC said part of its monitoring evidence resulted from work done by the FCC's High-Frequency Direction Finding facility in Columbia, Maryland.

"Our evidence indicates that you have made unidentified transmissions, transmissions identified by the call sign 'K4OKA' as well as 'Captain Truth,' 'Sodomizer,' 'Captain Sod' and numerous derivatives thereof," Hollingsworth wrote. The call sign K4OKA is assigned to John A. "Al" Abernethy of Hickory, North Carolina. Abernethy last year lost his HF privileges for six months following an FCC inspection visit to his station in early 1999 and complaints of deliberate interference.

The FCC said its evidence in the "Captain Truth" case indicated that the malicious interference and jamming occurred at various times since March 1999--up to as recently as March 24 of this year.

Hollingsworth gave Yount 30 days to respond to the allegations in detail. Failure to respond, he told Yount, could result revocation and suspension proceedings. Hollingsworth also invited Yount to contact him to discuss the matter further.

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"So Bob...why did your ex-wife give you a new climbing belt for Christmas?"

Thanks to Greg Trook, N0UJR  
<http://incolor.inetnebr.com/n0ujr/>

## Restructuring Reconsideration Petitions on Public Notice

The FCC has put on public notice five petitions for partial reconsideration of the Commission's amateur "restructuring" Report and Order WT Docket 98-143. The list includes a petition filed by the ARRL. Interested parties may file opposition comments. The FCC does not solicit supporting comments for such petitions, and it's under no obligation to consider them.

In addition to the League's, petitions put on public notice April 18 were filed by Alan J. Wormser, N5LF, Frederick V Adsit, NY2V, and Michael J. Dinelli, N9BOR; by Fred A Duran, W4NKI; by Millard H. Qualls, K9DIY, and by Stewart Teaze, N0MHS. The petitions were put on public notice April 25 in The Federal Register.

The League's petition, filed in mid-March, asks the FCC to continue to maintain records indicating whether or not a Technician has Morse code element credit. It also seeks permanent Morse element credit for any Amateur Radio applicant who has ever passed an FCC-recognized Morse exam of at least 5 WPM.

The Wormser, Adsit, Dinelli and the Qualls petitions also call on the FCC to rethink its plan to eliminate the "Plus" designation from the license class of Technicians who have passed the 5 WPM Morse code examination. Wormser et al say that essentially merging Technician and Tech Plus licensees into a single database would hamper enforcement.

Two petitioners also ask the FCC to retain the 20 WPM Morse code requirement for the Extra. Wormser, Adsit, and Dinelli contend the FCC's December 30, 1999, R&O "unnecessarily reduces the speed of the Amateur Extra Class telegraphy examination as a way to avoid code waivers." The petitioners argue that the General class license with its 5 WPM code test offers "reasonable accommodation to disabled persons" claiming an inability to pass the higher code test. As an alternative, the petitioners sug-

gest that the FCC allow applicants claiming an exemption "to certify their own impairment under oath." Qualls requests retention of the 20 WPM test or at least a 12 WPM requirement for the Extra ticket.

Wormser et al also want the FCC to ban the practice of allowing applicants to retake a failed examination element at a single test session. Their petition says amateur applicants should be restricted to one exam session in any 24-hour period. It further asks the FCC to not extend exam element credit beyond the current two-year license expiration grace period.

The Wormser et al and Qualls petitions also ask the FCC to set the number of questions at 50 for the Technician and General class test and at 100 for the Extra test. Wormser et al further request that the FCC "retain sufficient question

pool categories to maintain or increase the proportion of technical and theoretical questions on each written test."

The Teaze petition calls upon the FCC to institute a new entry-level Communicator license class. Under his proposal, Communicator licensees could be no older than 16, must use fixed antennas no more than 20 feet above ground or above the building or tree they're mounted on, and use not more than 2.5 W ERP. Channelized voice and digital operation would be in the range of 445 to 446 MHz. The exam would consist of "25 fairly simple questions."

The Duran filing requests that the FCC elevate former "Class A" operators licensed prior to 1951 to Amateur Extra, instead of leaving them at

Advanced class--something the FCC's Report and Order specifically said it would not agree to do.

The window to file opposition comments to any of these petitions remains open through May 10. Replies to opposition comments are due 10 days later. Copies of all petitions may be viewed on the FCC Web site. Visit <http://www.fcc.gov/e-file/ecfs.html>, click on "Search the ECFS System" and type "98-143" in the "Proceeding" field. - via *ARRL Letter Online 4/23/00*

## You're Never too Old to Upgrade

Volunteer Examiner John Creel, WB3GXW, of Maryland's Laurel VEC, reports a heartwarming experience at a VE session Sunday, March 26, at the Greater Baltimore Hamboree and Computerfest. During the session, the team tested 148 applicants who took 205 elements, including several upgrades to Extra. "The highlight was when Charles A. Earp Jr, W3DKT, came through the door," Creel relates. "He had in his possession his 1933-issued license. At 83 years and one month he upgraded to a **grand Extra** by passing Elements 4B and 1C. His CSCE was signed by all 23 VEs who worked the session. What a day!" The team's next test date is April 15.-- John Creel, WB3GXW - via *ARRL Letter Online 4/14/00*

**...ask the FCC to set the number of questions at 50 for the Technician and General class test and at 100 for the Extra...**

**K4KBB**

# J & P Machine Works, Inc.



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**Manufacturer of Swiss Screw Machine Products.  
 Pins, Shafts, Rods and Spacers.**

# BARC Monthly Minutes - April 2000

## Minutes of BARC meeting of 4/11/00

Dave Balch and Billy Igoe, N4ZTN, both from ECU School of Medicine, presented a program on Strong Angel, which will occur June 11-16, 2000. This is a joint 7-nation/Navy exercise which hopefully will incorporate hams as communicators between a mock refugee camp set up in Hawaii on a lava field and the Telemedicine Suite at East Carolina University. A test of equipment and procedures will perhaps occur during the second week of May.

Paul Fletcher, KS4YF, and Doug Ferris, K4ROK, were instrumental in deciding on what radios, antennas, etc., would be necessary for this effort and their recommendations have been purchased, but not yet received at the time of the BARC meeting. The equipment will supposedly be set up in the Brody building and with luck be available for our club's use. Details on the whole project are still in the planning stage.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

The Treasurer, Bob, KV4RF, reported no expenses for the past month, with a grand total of \$2555.25 in our account. \$1000.00 of this is designated for equipment.

The Secretary, Lily, KV4AW, reported receipt of newsletters from Kinston, Pamlico and Greensboro clubs, as well as flyers for the DurHamFest.

### Committee reports

VOA site C--Doug, K4ROK, and Paul, KS4YF, have pointed out the advantages of Site C to the Strong Angel program and Dave Balch. Unfortunately, the antennas are still slated to come down at some time in the future.

Special Events--Gary, KU4NQ, noted that the TEDI Bear Walk is May 6, in conjunction with the International Festival. He needs about 13 people to be posted on the Walk route with HT's, starting at 9-9:30AM. The walk will take approximately 1.5 to 2 hours. Also, set-up for the International Festival will start at 8AM on the Town commons. Murray,

K4MHM, would like to set up a vertical and a beam, and use the ARES radios. The International Fest logo will appear on the QSL cards.

Health and Welfare--It was reported that James Eubanks, KD4JOV, appeared at the last VE session and passed his exam.

Instructor group--Murray, K4MHM, has been talking to JROTC groups in hopes of getting an accelerated summer class going

Programs--tonight and May will be Field Day.

June--Marvin Daugherty, weatherman

July--VOA Site A, invite the Kinston club

VE group--the next session is paperwork only, no exams. 6:30. Still need a volunteer to take over from Brother Simon, KQ2V, the VE duties.

Equipment--trailer negotiations are still underway. Currently it looks as if the hospital will give the club the required money to purchase a trailer.

### Old Business

Fund Raising-- Juanita, KD4JWK, reported that Morgan Printing is working on 1000 tickets. Prizes will be \$250, \$100, and \$50 for 1st, 2nd and 3rd. Tickets will be sold at the International Festival as well as any other time up to Field Day. Drawing will be at 7PM that evening.

Brochure--Wayne, WD4JPQ, has the club emblem in color and is pressing ahead.

### New Business

With Br. Simon's departure in June we will need a new trustee for the club call signs, preferably an Extra class member. Also give some thought on where we might meet in the future (looking towards better seating!!).

John, KF4TZN, told the club that he has a 6 meter repeater coming together. He still needs \$450 for the duplexers and donations are welcome. Frequency will be 53.31.

Program--Patrick Sutton, KD4NNA, Field Day Chair.

Suggested alternate sites: new section of ECU stadium; front of Sam's Club; PC Fairgrounds; behind US Cellular; in front of Nichol's (will cost \$150); National Guard Armory; Stantonsburg Rd and Allen Rd intersection; Greenville parks and recreation (14th and Greenville Blvd); Eppes Middle School; Elm St. park. Of these, the armory was excused as being in a bad neighborhood and too low. Noted that we would need access to bathrooms and AC would be nice.

Number of stations--2 + a Novice-Tech.

Could try setting up for digital, ATV and satellite for extra points.

Discussed paper logs vs. Computers

Food-- Dinner on Saturday only; on your own for breakfast and lunch.

Concerns--comfort, security, noise, participation, scheduling

Power--Mike, KD4MTT

First Aid--Juanita, KD4JWK, coordinator; Ken, N8FF, Ollie Black, KE4UQB, Tom, W4TEP

Food--Lukhards, KG4CCY and KG4CCZ, and Pulvers, KG4CZW and KG4CZV

Publicity--Walt, KA4WFS

Shelter--club owned

Antennas, feed lines--Bernie, WA4MOK

Rigs--Doug, K4ROK, Jim, KF4VHH

Scheduling--

Set-up/Location--Patrick, KD4NNA

Novice/Tech--Todd, KG4CCX

Respectfully submitted,

*Lily Fainter, KV4AW*

**Support BARC at  
Field Day on June  
24-25.**

**Contact Pat Sutton,  
KD4NNA.**

# 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](mailto:w4ydy@arrl.net)

## For Sale:

Cushcraft 11 element 2 meter beam.  
TV antenna with Alliance rotor.  
\$75 or best offer. Buyer will take down.  
W. C. Mayo, KD4AAQ, 756-9890

## Wanted:

Used HT for 2 meters.  
Ben Epting, III, N4NOA  
[BREpting@excite.com](mailto:BREpting@excite.com) or 252-637-7890.

## Wanted:

Manual for HP Desk Jet 500 Printer.  
Murray Merner, K4MHM, 757-3429  
[k4mhm@arrl.net](mailto:k4mhm@arrl.net)

## Wanted:

An instruction manual for a Kenwood PC-1 phone patch controller. Please call Murray, K4MHM at 757-3429.  
[k4mhm@arrl.net](mailto:k4mhm@arrl.net)

## Vanity Fee to Remain \$14 this Fiscal Year

The FCC has proposed keeping the annual regulatory fee for an Amateur Radio vanity call sign at \$14 (\$1.40 per year for the 10-year license term). That information was released in a Notice of Proposed Rule Making, MD Docket 00-58, proposing Fiscal Year 2000 annual regulatory fees. (FY 2000 began last September; the fees are paid in arrears.) The FCC said it anticipates 8000 applications for vanity call signs during FY 2000. Comments on MD Docket 00-58 were due April 24. - *ARRL Letter Online*

## ARRL Web Access Disrupted by Cyber-Vandal

Access to the ARRL Web site (<http://www.arrl.org/>) was disrupted early on Monday, April 24, when an unknown individual managed to hijack the League's "arrl.org" domain name and redirect visitors to a bogus Netfirms site in Canada. ARRL system managers were alerted to the illegal modification within hours and had the change reversed. But the aftereffects continued to reverberate across the Internet throughout the week, affecting access for some to the League's Web pages.

The ARRL Web site itself was not "hacked," and no ARRL files were damaged as a result of the vandalism. "Our domain was hijacked at Network Solutions," ARRL Information Systems Department Manager Don Durand emphasized. "At no time was our Web server compromised." Network Solutions is a company that registers Internet domain names.

"Network Solutions was promptly notified of the illegal change, and they, in turn, returned our record to the correct settings," Durand said.

Some who attempted to access the site Tuesday were greeted by an obscene message and the statement "Pirate radio 4 life baybee." In addition to affecting access to the site, the vandalism disrupted e-mail service to League staff and officials. Mail service also returned during the week as servers were updated. The ARRL E-Mail Forwarding Service was not affected.

Durand said that while Network Solutions was alerted to the breach Monday morning, it takes up to 48 hours--and occasionally longer--for the various name servers on the Internet to update their records.

ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, said the League intends to investigate the disruption through all possible means. Haynie promised that the perpetrators, if caught, would be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

Durand said the League has beefed up its level of security at Network Solutions to help prevent a recurrence. - *Via ARRL Letter Online 4/28/00*

## 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@arrl.net](mailto:w4ydy@arrl.net)

Help support *Ham Chatter*. Donations accepted!

## NETS

### VHF

- ◆ BARC Net, Mondays, 2000 on 147.09 MHz, W4GDF Repeater.
- ◆ Pitt County Emergency Communications Net, Mondays, 2100 on 147.09 MHz. (131.8 Hz Tone)
- ◆ Kinston Amateur Radio Society Net, 1,3,4 Tuesdays, 2000 hrs. on 145.47 MHz., W4OIX repeater in Kinston.
- ◆ Eastern North Carolina Traffic Net, Every night, 2030 on 146.685 MHz.
- ◆ 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 ET on Williamston 145.410 & 444.250, Columbia 146.835 & 443.300, Rocky Mount 147.120, Ahoskie 146.910, Franklin, VA 147.300, Farmville 145.270, (Buxton 145.150 Coming Soon)
- ◆ 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*

## *CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

May 5. ....	Special VE Session ( <b>No Exams</b> )	July 15. ....	Cary Hamfest
May 9. ....	<b>Regular Meeting</b>	July 25. ....	<b>Board Meeting</b>
May 27-28 .....	CQ WW CQ WPX Contest	July 29. ....	Ham Chatter <b>Deadline</b>
May 30. ....	<b>Board Meeting</b>	August 8 .....	<b>Regular Meeting</b>
June 3 .....	Ham Chatter <b>Deadline</b>	August 29 .....	<b>Board Meeting</b>
June 13 .....	<b>Regular Meeting</b>	Sept 2 .....	Ham Chatter <b>Deadline</b>
June 16 .....	BARC VE Session @ 6:30PM	Sept 2-3. ....	Shelby Hamfest
June 24-25 .....	ARRL Field Day	Sept 12 .....	<b>Regular Meeting</b>
June 27 .....	<b>Board Meeting</b>	Sept 23-24. ....	Va. Beach Hamfest
July 1. ....	Ham Chatter <b>Deadline</b>	Sept 26 .....	<b>Board Meeting</b>
July 8-9 .....	IARU HF World Championship		
July 11. ....	<b>Regular Meeting</b>		

**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**  
**May 9**

# May 2000

To:



PO Box 8387  
Greenville, NC 27835

## Ham Chatter