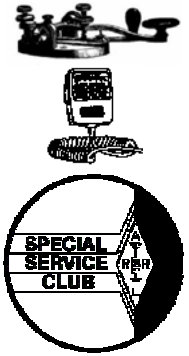




Ham Chatter



Volume 34 Issue 9

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September 2000

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Meet The Member Ray Black, WB4FRB

Ray was born and raised in the farm country of Iowa. He left there in 1953 when he entered the Navy at the age of 18. He served four years and received training as an electrician. After his discharge he went to Chattanooga, TN starting a lighting maintenance service company. He moved to Norfolk, VA in the 1960's at the urging of his sister. He moved to Hatteras, NC in 1976. He had been going there fishing and found they had no licensed electrician so moved. Good fishing and a job! He and Ollie, KE4UQB, stayed until they were "urged" by hurricane Emily to leave. They moved inland to Greenville although Ray did commute to finish up some work at Hatteras for about a year. They've been in Greenville for about six years. He has been the maintenance supervisor at a catfish business for the last five years and even though he could retire, will continue

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Ray Black, WB4FRB

Next Meeting - Sept 12

The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club will have its next regular meeting on September 12 at 7:30 PM at St. Peter's School on 5th Street. The nominating committee will present candidates for 2001 club officers. Dave LeMoine, KV4CN, will present a program about PSK31 if time permits. Also, Doug Ferris, K4ROK, will discuss the upcoming SET. All members, families and guests are invited to attend.

The next board meeting is set for September 26 at 7:00 PM. The meeting is open to all members.

Nominations Due

Nominations for BARC officers for 2001 are due at the September meeting. The Nominating Committee members are Bob Fainter, KV4RF, John McCoy, K4KBB, Wayne Ross, WD4JPQ, and Dave Langley, W4YDY. Anyone interested in holding office or

nominating someone, please inform one of the committee members. All positions are up for the election.

Nominations will be presented by the committee and also will be accepted from the floor at the Sept. meeting. There will be no more nominations after the close of the September meeting. Write-ins will be accepted. Absentee ballots will be ready at the October meeting with the elections in November.

FCC Turns Down CB DX Petition

The FCC has denied a petition that would have amended the FCC's Part 95 rules to permit DXing on the 11-meter Citizens Band. The petition sought to amend §95.413 of the rules that prohibits communications or attempts to communicate with CB stations more than 250 km away and to contact stations in other countries.

Designated RM-9807, the petition was filed by Popular Communications Contributing Editor Alan Dixon, N3HOE.

"Dixon's request is inconsistent with the purpose of the CB Radio Service and could fundamentally alter the nature of the service," the FCC said in turning down the petition.

The FCC action was adopted August 18. The Order was released August 21.

The FCC said CB operators generally supported the proposal and stated that the present rule was unenforceable. The ARRL commented in opposition to the petition. "The Amateur Radio Service is the proper forum for the desired long-distance communications sought by the Dixon petition," the League told the FCC.

The National Association of Broadcasters also opposed Dixon's petition. The NAB said that the restriction was necessary to deter CBers from operating at excessive power levels and that consumers must be protected from illegal CB transmissions that interfere with radio, TV and other consumer electronics.

The FCC agreed with the ARRL and said it did not intend to create a ser-

(Continued on page 7)

President's Corner - Murray,

September is here and while there have been a couple of storms on the radar nothing has come close to North Carolina, yet. The ARRL is dedicated to disaster relief. In the May 26 ARRL email letter it was noted that the ARRL and other organizations have a memorandum of understanding with the American Red Cross. We certainly have a good relationship with the local ARC and **Tom Parsons, W4TEP**, has been a big part of that. The watch word still remains, "Be Prepared".

The ARRL also is dedicated to getting more kids aware of Amateur Radio. "The Big Project" is an effort of president Jim Haynie, W5JBP, to get Amateur Radio in American classrooms with funding by corporations. We are making our own efforts in Pitt County with the **New Ham Class**. Ten instructors have stepped forward to conduct one (or two) of the 12 sessions and the Morse code. The class starts Sep 7 and we've had a number of people call with an interest in attending. Please let others at work, church, or around town know about the class. Don't forget the older person - many of them remember radio with fond memories and have thought of Amateur

Radio. It gives them something positive to do.

We've talked a lot about the **trailer**. We *have* received the check and ordered the trailer - it should be here around the end of Sep.

Location, location, location. We've been talking about moving. If you have a good idea about a spot let us know.

Amateur Radio.

Ham radio, pass it on.

73,

Murray, K4MHM

August 18, 2000 VE Session Results

Two upgraded to Amateur Extra and two competed the exams for the no code Technicians licenses at the BARC August 18 VE session. **Leroy Tydall, WN4MNU**, Grifton, and **Leo Mallard, W4KEM**, Kinston, received the Extra Class license from the FCC on August 24. New Technician license and call signs were received by **James Brown, KG4JFH**, Winterville, and **Charles Baswell, KG4JFI**, Kinston, on August 24 via the FCC. VE Liaison Cliff Kendall, N3LEX, was assisted by VE's Murray Merner, K4MHM, Tom Parsons, W4TEP, Gary Gasperini, AF4XV, and Dave Langley, W4YDY.

New Ham Class Starts September 7

Jim, KF4VHH, tells us that the **September's program** is not quite settled, but if it comes off as he would like, it will be interesting to see the new technology in action. Plus the Nominating Committee will announce the slate of officers for the upcoming election; **Doug, K4ROK**, will report on upcoming the Simulated Emergency Test; and we will hear about JOTA. Come and join us.

This club is for you and we want you to be a part of it. Come to the meetings and be a part of the friendship of



Happy Birthday

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

1	KC4ROR	Rose Wainwright
5	KQ2V	Simon Jaworski
6	KD4MTT	Mike Langley
7	KF4MTL	Brian Hardee
8	KD4NRB	Harold Bailey
24	N4BSI	Hassell Bailey
29	N4WHT	Hugh Lindsley
30	WD4PYO	James Lang

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

Well Wishes

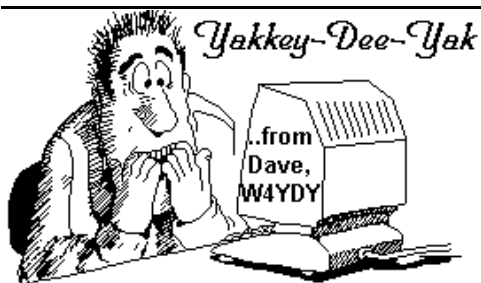
Buster "WOLF, The Wonder Dog" has been sick but he is still doing his job. He keeps Ken Graf, N8FF, company and on his toes. Everyone wishes Buster the best of health and full recovery.

Roanoke Division Director and Vice Director Elected

The ARRL declared Roanoke Division Director Dennis Bodson, W4PWF, and Vice Director Leslie J. Shattuck, K4NK, elected since they were unopposed. - *via ARRL Bulletin 36, 8/28/00*

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Several BARC members have asked for more information about the WAS nets that **Gary Gasperini, AF4XV**, talked about at the August club meeting. The one that seems to be the most active is the 3905 Century Club nets. They operate eight nets for awards or whatever you wish to use QSL cards for. Complete information and forms can be found on the Internet at <http://www.qsl.net/3905ccn/>.

There are SSB nets on 160, 80 and 40 meters, CW nets on 80 and 40 meters and RTTY nets on 80, 40 and 20 meters. The two most active nets are the SSB nets on 3904 kHz on 80 meters (0200Z) and 7233.5 or about 7238 kHz on 40 meters (0000Z). They move around some to get away from broadcast QRM on 40 meters. These two nets operate every day of the year. They are the early nets. Late nets start at 0500Z on 80 meters and 0400Z on 40 meters.

The nets start off by calling stations to check in by call areas and each station is given a number. When your turn comes around, you may call any station, pass or go up for "grabs". If you are just starting, you will get a pileup when you go up for grabs. Also many of the stations will call you when their turn comes. The first time I called into the nets, I filled up a page or two of my log book in less than an hour.

They expect you to QSL **100 percent**. In the few months that I have been in the nets, I have sent out over 600 QSL cards and received over 500. Each net has a QSL manager. I send in about 10 or 12 number 10 envelopes with return address and a single stamp on them. The callsign is at the return address location.

You can send cards to them at the same time you send envelopes and also send cards anytime. They will put 8 to 10 cards in an envelope to send cards to you. Although I have spent a little less than 30 dollars for postage, I would have spent over 200 dollars if I had sent each card in an envelope or over 120 cards if I had used the card rate. The QSL bureaus are very fast. Most of the time, I will receive cards for QSO's made just 3 or 4 weeks earlier. If you want them faster, you can send an SASE direct to the station. But your cost will really jump.

I have worked and confirmed 48 States on 80 meters and 49 States on 40 meters (need Hawaii!) in less than five months. If I were to work the late nets, it would be no problem to get all states confirmed. Gary likes the late nets so he has all States.

The QSL cards can be used for the 3905 CC awards and any other award you might like to get. It's a fast way to

It's a fast way to get all States confirmed for the ARRL WAS award.

get all States confirmed for the ARRL WAS award. It's also a good bunch of operators on the nets. If you have an Internet service, check out the net web site at <http://www.qsl.net/3905ccn/>.

There are a number of DX nets on 20 and 15 meters. Some operate every day of the year. One that I have been successful with is the Afrikaner Group on 21.255 MHz. They have a web site at <http://www.afrikanergroup.com/>. They start about 1 PM EST and operate for an hour or two according to conditions and activity. They get a list of DX stations that will take calls and then stand by for a list of any stations that may want to call one of them. They usually have 10 or 15 on the list to make a single call and they take several times an hour. A station may work 5 or more DX stations during a ses-

sion. Some of the DX is rare. I have picked up several countries that I have only heard on the Afrikaner Group. You can get a certificate from them when you work 25 DX stations and send in a dollar to Ron, KZ5RO, in Virginia, one of the net control stations. Ron also works the 3905 Century Club nets sometimes.

When I was demonstrating my new Icom IC-756PRO at the August meeting, I said that I was still learning how to use it. One feature that came in handy that I used a few days later was the timer. I had a schedule with John, K4KBB and his son, Phil, FO0MCC on 17 meters at 10:30 PM. I got the rig tuned up about an hour or so earlier and set the time for 10:25 PM. Then I turned the transceiver off. I was doing some work on the computer next to the rig when all at once at 10:25 PM, the transceiver came on and there was John already talking! They had made contact a few minutes before the scheduled time. The time was sure nice because one night I missed the schedule because time slipped up on me while I was busy at the computer. Why does an hour seem like five minutes when you are at the computer???

After over twenty years, I got back on RTTY a few days ago and have made a number of contacts. I backed the 756PRO down to 50 watts but it is rated at 100 watts on RTTY. So far that 50 watts has worked 10 new countries on RTTY including Russia, Reunion Island, Australia and several in Europe in one 24 hour period. I also had a very nice rag-chew with a station in Kansas that lasted about 40 minutes on 20 meters.

Another new mode that has become very popular during the past year is PSK31. Everyone that uses it are very happy with the results. If you have a computer with a sound card and a radio to get on the air with, a couple of simple cables will get you going. Hopefully, it will work out for a program on PSK31 at the

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Fewer Than One-Fifth of Hams Are ULS-Registered

The FCC has confirmed that fewer than one-fifth of US Amateur Radio licensees—including club stations—are registered on the Universal Licensing System. The FCC deployed the ULS for the Amateur Service just under a year ago, although registration has been available far longer.

The question of how many hams now were ULS-registered arose during the July 21 meeting of the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators, held in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Not even the FCC officials on hand had an answer. After the meeting, RC Smith, W6RZA, of the Greater Los Angeles VEC crunched some numbers to see if he could supply one for his colleagues.

Starting with the 717,629 licensees in the FCC database at that point, Smith subtracted the 31,449 determined to be expired but within the two-year grace period. Sorting on the Licensee ID Number field, Smith came up with 129,947 ULS registrants, or 18.9% of the remaining 686,180 licensees.

The FCC's Steve Linn, N4CAK, says the Commission ran its own numbers and came up with a similar figure--although without subtracting for those within the two-year grace period. "The quick run done here looked at all active records--717,314--and how many had

Licensee ID numbers, giving 18.1%," Linn said this week. "Take out the grace records and we're in the same ballpark."

During his comments at the Dayton Hamvention FCC forum, Linn encouraged amateur licensees to register with ULS to "lock in" their FCC records. ULS registration, he said, "protects your call sign within the system" and could prevent it from inadvertently being deleted or reissued due to a filing error.

All amateurs must be registered with the ULS in order to file applications with the FCC, even for such routine matters as a change of address or a license renewal. Registration requires that licensees supply a Taxpayer Identification Number, or TIN--a Social Security number for an individual. Some amateurs have protested that requirement citing privacy concerns, but the FCC has maintained that it's bound by the Debt Collection Improvement Act to require it.

Last month, the FCC announced that it has begun implementing the new Commission Registration System, or CORES. Registration in CORES eventually will replace ULS registration, although the FCC has not indicated just when the switch will occur. CORES registration also will require registrants to supply a TIN. Those already registered in ULS need not register again in CORES, however. The FCC says the ULS will continue to be the primary Amateur Radio licensee database and the only means to file applications and updates.

The FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau recently announced expanded hours for ULS technical support. ULS users may now reach the FCC Technical Support Hotline, 202-414-1250, from 7 AM to 10 PM weekdays. Weekend service is newly available. On Saturdays the Hotline will be available from 8 AM until 7 PM and on Sundays from noon until 6 PM (all times Eastern). Users also may contact tech support via e-mail at ulscomm@fcc.gov.

For more information, to access the ULS or to register, visit the FCC's ULS site. - via ARRL Letter Online 8/4/00

All amateurs must be registered with the ULS...

BARC Field Day 2000 was a major success!!!

The following Field Day score was mailed to the ARRL by FD Chairman, Pat Sutton, KD4NNA.

288 CW QSOs x 2 = 576
 3 Digital QSOs x 2 = 6
 829 Phone QSOs x 1 = 829
 1120 Contacts, with multipliers = 1411 QSO points
 1411 x Power Multiplier (2) = Claimed Score 2822
 Plus 700 Bonus points claimed = Total Score 3522



National Weather Service - Special Event Station

The National Weather Service will be conducting its second, nationwide Special Event Station on December 2, 2000 (00Z-24Z)...December 1, 7 pm EST to December 2, 7 pm EST. QSL Certificates will be available. Please help pass the word around.

Several NWS stations will be operating voice on 80 / 40 / 20 / 15 / 10 meters...plus some CW and digital modes. The typical QSO exchange will include call sign / signal report / qth (city, state (country, if not U.S.A.)). Last year WX9IWX had 472 QSO's with 46 states and contacted 32 NWS offices. This year, in addition to the Special Event, WX9IWX plans to operate on 2m simplex during a portion of the event for operators within our county warning area... sort of like a special event within a special event. Additional details will be sent as they become available. - KB8QEV

Yakkey-Dee-Yak From Dave, W4YDY

(Continued from page 3)

September meeting by KV4CN if schedules permit. I have the cables made up but haven't had a chance to try it at this writing.

Had a good time at the Shelby Hamfest over Labor Day weekend. There were a few sprinkles when I was there but it was not hot! The MARS forum had a demo on PSK31. As usual, the best part of the hamfest was seeing long time friends and all the goodies! - W4YDY

ARRL Collecting "Restrictive Covenants" Tales

The ARRL has begun compiling a dossier of amateurs' experiences with CC&Rs--covenants, conditions and restrictions. Imposed by private homeowners' associations or by developers, CC&Rs--also known as "restrictive covenants" and "deed restrictions"--often impede or prohibit the installation of outside antennas.

In January, the ARRL asked the FCC to reconsider its denial of the League's request to extend the limited federal preemption known as PRB-1 to restrictive covenants. The League has said it would like hams to be free to negotiate reasonable accommodation provisions with local homeowners' associations just as they do now with governmental land-use regulators.

"What we're trying to do is compile documentary evidence to present if and when the occasion to do so arises," ARRL Legislative and Public Affairs Manager Steve Mansfield, N1MZA, said this week. "The experiences of amateurs with restrictive covenants will help us to determine our future direction on this issue," he explained.

The ARRL is inviting narratives from amateurs who now are or have been denied the opportunity to install an antenna or support structure on a dwelling they own because of CC&Rs. Narratives should relate directly to situations involving restrictive covenants and should be no

longer than one page for inclusion in the CC&R database. Submittals should include name, call sign, the address at which you were denied the opportunity to put up an antenna, and the basis upon which you were denied or would expect to be denied. Participants should include a copy of the contract language that would exclude your antenna or support structure and copies of any denial letters from a homeowners' association.

Submittals should be sent to ANTENNAS, c/o Steve Mansfield, N1MZA, American Radio Relay League,

--often impede or prohibit the installation of outside antennas.

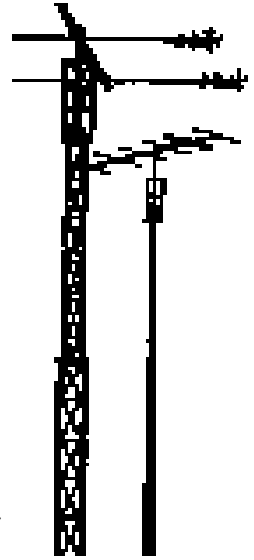
225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111. E-mail submittals are welcome to smansfield@arrl.org with the subject line "ANTENNAS".

In declining last fall to act on the ARRL's initial request to expand PRB-1, the FCC drew the line at proposing specific rule changes to bring private restrictive covenants under the PRB-1 umbrella. In asking the FCC to rethink the issue earlier this year, the League pointed out that since PRB-1 was first promulgated in 1985, the FCC has made it clear that it has Congressional authority to prohibit restrictive covenants that could keep property owners and even renters from

installing antennas to receive TV, satellite and similar signals. The League asserts the same principle applies to Amateur Radio, in which the FCC has said it has a "strong federal interest."

The League's Regulatory Information Branch reports that the topic of restrictive covenants and antennas is one of the most frequently raised by members contacting the ARRL for information. "Not a day goes by that we in RIB don't hear from amateurs who are restricted by covenants," says the ARRL's John Hennessee, N1KB. "People want to know specifically how they can help, so now we have something to tell them."

While the FCC has yet to act on the ARRL's Petition for Reconsideration to apply the philosophy of PRB-1 to CC&Rs, the League is seeking "additional opportunities" to present its case, Mansfield said, and the narrative database is one step in that direction. - *via ARRL Letter Online 8/18/00*



Next VE Session October 20, 2000

The next Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club VE session will be held on October 20. Exams will be held at St. Peter's School on 5th Street and will start promptly at 6:30 PM. Cliff Kendall, K3LEX, 752-0107 : cpkendall@aol.com 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

Hospital Program Teaches Kids to Operate

A program at Tampa Children's Hospital St Joseph's is introducing Amateur Radio to some of its young patients. TCH patients can participate in Amateur Radio learning sessions with physicians and hospital staff who are ham operators at the hospital's Kids Space Ham Radio. "I love teaching children about the workings of Amateur Radio," says TCH pediatric cardiologist and Amateur Radio operator Dr James Huhta, AA4MD. "The Kids Space Ham Radio program not only helps get the children's minds off of their illnesses, but it also exposes them to a hobby they may enjoy the rest of their lives."--*Greg Brostowicz, St Joseph's-Baptist Health Care - ARRL Letter Online*

Outgoing QSL Service Marks a Million

On July 28, the ARRL Outgoing QSL Bureau topped one million cards sent so far this year. QSL Service Assistant Tammy Krauss, K1TLK, says the year-to-date total is 1,103,535. That number is ahead of the same date last year by 22,215 cards.--*Tammy Krauss, K1TLK - ARRL Letter Online* (Editors note) ARRL members can save a lot of postage money if you send out many QSL cards! - *W4YDY*

Meet The Member - Ray Black, WB4FRB

(Continued from page 1)

to work there. (They process 50,000 pounds of catfish per day as well as raising their own and manufacturing catfish food.)

Ray got interested in radio as early as the age of twelve when he made a crystal set. He got his first license in 1976 when in Virginia. A bunch of the guys he fished with had their license - Charlie Combs, WA4TJI and Warren Coleman, WA4TRC. Ray Pemberton, WA4ZYP (SK) and Ray took their test at the same time. He started on six meters using a Swan 250, a homebrew 1KW linear and a stacked set of beams. When at Hatteras he was busy starting his business so ham radio took a back seat for a couple of years. He later got reinvolved on two meters - his first radio was a con-

verted police radio and he later upgraded to a Midland that later got fried by lightning. Two meters served Ray and Hatteras well during many a storm when there was no other communication to the mainland. He notes he not only was the only licensed electrician there for many years, he was the only ham. During one hurricane Ollie, an EMT and dispatcher, helped with health and welfare messages - they had 300 QSO's! Ray has been recognized by the ARRL for his work during hurricanes.

He was a charter member of the Dismal Swamp ARC in Portsmouth, VA. He was able to contact all states on six meters, but lost his QSL cards in a hurricane at Hatteras. His current interests in HF include checking into the Coastal Carolina Net most nights. He also enjoys

17 meters into Europe. His rig is a Kenwood 860 with an inverted Vee up about 21 feet and a Dentron turner. "I can talk to anyone I hear". He has two Yaesu mobile two meter rigs - one in the vehicle and one at home. All the rigs at home are powered by a marine battery. He's been a member of BARC since he arrived at Greenville and about four years ago he was the Field Day coordinator when we were at the Boys and Girls Club.

Ollie got her license in 1995 after taking a class taught by Simon, KQ2V. She doesn't get on the air much, but is more inclined to when they are at the beach. She is interested in the computer and the

internet.

Ray and Ollie like to camp in their 25 foot travel trailer going to Tennessee, the Ozarks in Missouri, Florida and Alabama. Ray has three step children and two grandchildren. There are no other hams except Ollie, but he did have an uncle who was a ham, but he had very little contact with him.

Ray has had a vast amount of experience with amateur radio. You can bet his services were invaluable during the disastrous weather on the coast. Ray serves as a reminder of how hams assist our communities at the time of emergencies. Thanks Ray, we appreciate all you've done for BARC, your community and ham radio. - *K4MHM*

RF Safety Rules Now in Force for all Amateurs

Starting September 1, every US amateur is required to fully comply with the FCC's RF exposure guidelines.

The regulations, which went into effect January 1, 1998, require US Amateur Radio operators to read and understand the rules and, where necessary, perform technical evaluations to determine that their stations are compliant with the new regulations. Up until now, only hams who have had to file an Amateur Radio application with the FCC have had to certify compliance with the RF exposure rules. As of September 1, all amateurs must comply.

Under the regulations, an amateur station must not exceed the maximum permissible exposure limits for transmitter operation.

"These regulations are not a major burden on the Amateur Radio Service," said ARRL Lab Supervisor Ed Hare, W1RFI. "Most hams are already in compliance with the MPE requirements; some hams will need to conduct a simple station evaluation."

A complete description of the rules is available on the ARRL Web site at <http://www.arrl.org/news/rfsafety/>. The site also contains resources to make your station evaluation quite painless.

Address questions about RF safety and the FCC exposure guidelines to ARRL Lab Supervisor Ed Hare, W1RFI, ehare@arrl.org. - *via ARRL Bulletin ARLB037, 9/1/00*



"Yea...I just bought one of those new computer controlled 'smart' HF rigs. It almost anticipates your settings. Only thing is...If I forget myself and start using rough language on the air, the darn thing retunes itself to 11 meters!..."

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

ULS Hints Redux

Those attempting to register or use the FCC's Universal Licensing System occasionally (maybe that's an understatement) have been frustrated when entering a licensee name only to have the ULS come back with a "no matches" response. Unfortunately, the FCC database does not recognize the period "." after an initial, such as in "John Q. Public" and the ULS is not programmed to disregard a "." in a name query. When

entering a licensee name to search, enter the last name first, followed by a comma and no punctuation after any middle initial. But wait! If there's a "Jr" or "Sr" or Roman numeral such as II or II after the name, the FCC database includes the suffix as part of the last name. This means if you search--on the ULS or on one of the many call sign sites on the Web--for licensee John Q. Public III, you must

search for "Public III, John Q" or the name won't show. You can also search just on a last name without a comma following, but this also will yield all names that begin with "Public" including the one you're looking for. All hams who received new tickets or upgrades during the restructuring flurry now are registered in the ULS. These licensees must contact

Searching for Data

the FCC's Technical Support Hotline in order to obtain a temporary ULS password. A ULS password is required to access the system to file additional applications or changes--for example, to apply for a vanity call sign, to renew, or to file a change of address. To obtain a temporary password, call the Technical Support Hotline, 202-414-1250. ULS-registered amateurs may change their passwords online via the ULS. - *ARRL Letter Online 8/25/00*

Vanity Fee Stays at \$14 This Fiscal Year

The annual regulatory fee for an Amateur Radio vanity call sign will stay \$14 (\$1.40 per year for the 10-year license term). The FCC has revised its Schedule of Regulatory Fees in order to collect the \$185,754,000 that Congress has required the Commission to collect for Fiscal Year 2000, but it proposed no change in the vanity fee. The Commission adopted the proposed schedule of fees on June 30. (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. - *ARRL Letter Online 8/18/00*

RAC Seeks Elimination of 12 WPM Morse Requirement

Radio Amateurs of Canada has asked Industry Canada--the Canadian equivalent of the FCC--to discontinue that country's 12 WPM Morse code requirement in favor of a 5 WPM test. During the past year, RAC says it has consulted with the Canadian Amateur community on the issue, and the RAC Board has concluded that a majority of Canadian Amateurs support dropping the 12 WPM Morse test--although RAC acknowledges that many are against the change.

"A decision by Canada to drop the 12 WPM test would be in harmony with what is happening in other parts of the world and would simplify the negotiation and implementation of reciprocal operating agreements," an RAC bulletin said this week.

In a recent letter to Industry Canada, RAC President Kenneth Oelke, VE6AFO, recommended that full HF operating privileges be granted to amateurs who have passed a 5 WPM Morse test. At the same time, Oelke requested that the

IC consider beefing up written tests to strengthen and expand the requirements for operator knowledge and skills in the areas of station setup and operation, on-air procedures and operating practices, and to include more questions on modern modes of communication employed by radio amateurs.

R A C says its proposal would give Canadian radio amateurs operating privileges similar to those currently accorded to US amateurs who successfully pass a 5 WPM Morse test.--RAC - via *ARRL Letter Online 8/18/00*



CB DX Petition

(Continued from page 1)

vice paralleling the Amateur Service when it authorized the Citizens Radio Service. "Amending the rules to permit long-distance and international communications would undermine the purpose of the CB Radio Service rules and compromise one of the core distinctions between the CB Radio Service and the Amateur Radio Service," the FCC concluded. - via *ARRL Letter Online 8/25/00*

K4KBB

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BARC Monthly Minutes - August 2000

Minutes of BARC Meeting of 8/8/2000

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 by President Murray Merner, K4MHM.

Joe, WB4SLF, moved that the minutes of the previous meeting be accepted as written. Approved.

Treasurer's (Bob, KV4RF) Report—Income for last month was \$39.50. Outgo (Field Day, insurance, PO Box, supplies) was \$522.82. Total in checking account is \$2184.22, of which \$1131.66 is for equipment, leaving \$1052.56 as working capital.

Secretary (Lily, KV4AW)—Newsletters received from Greensboro and Pamlico clubs. Insurance bill received and paid.

President (Murray, K4MHM)—He has the trailer contract in his hands!! The trailer is specced out and events will continue to move forward.

Committee Reports

Field Day—Patrick, KD4NNA, turned in the data on 7/23/00. There were 1120 contacts for CW, digital and phone. For that we get 1411 QSO points X 2 for the power multiplier, giving us a 2822 claim score and 700 bonus points. Much better than last year.

Special events—Murray has spoken with Hal Smith, KE4FQC, about the Boy Scout merit badge. ARRL would like to include Girl Scouts in amateur radio also, but they do not have a merit badge.

Health and Welfare—Wayne, WD4JPQ, has had surgery on a torn rotator cuff. He was at the meeting and is doing fine (he can still tune the radio). He thanks everyone for their support.

Instructor group—Murray, K4MHM, reports the class begins Sept. 7 at St. Peter's.

Programs—Jim, KF4VHH, reported on change of program. We will do nominations for office in September and he will come up with a program. October will hopefully be the trip to Site A.

Nominating Committee—They have met and identified people to be asked to serve as officers for the upcoming year. If Absentee Ballots will be

needed, see the Nominating committee any time after the slate is made up. The committee members are Wayne, WD4JPQ, Dave, W4YDY, John, K4KBB, and Bob, KV4RF.

Old Business—

Meeting location—Murray has spoken with St. Peter's new principal and we can stay where we are at least for now. We are still looking for a site, however. Proposed locations are Our Redeemer church (corner of Elm and Greenville Blvd), Rotary Club (close to Gary's, AF4XV, house), ViQuest Center. Other suggestions are welcome.

New Business

W1VOA call sign needs QSL cards. Tom, W4TEP, and Dave, W4YDY, will look into the matter. Tom suggested a picture of the antenna farm as the background.

Jim, KF4VHH, noted that the Antique Radio Club is apparently meeting at 6:30 at Golden Corral on the same night as we meet. He suggested that anyone interested could have a chance to make both meetings.

Murray, K4MHM, talked about publicity for the ham class in September. He would like to run an ad in the Daily Reflector. Gary, AF4XV, suggested that it be run in the Miscellaneous Sales section for 8-10 days, since a lot of people read that; also, only one ad is not effective. It was suggested to try press releases, news stories, crawls on TV (Cliff, N3LEX, will put one on Farmville's station), the weather channel, PSA's, letters to teachers, Civil Air Patrol cadets, police, emergency personnel, Pitt Community College, ECU's School of Industry and Technology.

Cliff, N3LEX, noted that the next VE session is Aug. 18.

The Program for this evening was Dave, W4YDY, and Gary, AF4XV. Dave brought in his ICOM IC-756PRO radio and described its features. Get Dave to tell you about it, because it has so many features you really need to see them to appreciate all it can do.

Gary spoke on Nets and how you can use them to get various awards.

The two he mentioned most were the 3905 Century net and the Triple H net. Both of these can be used to get your Worked-All-States, All-States-by-Capitals, and many more awards. Also, there are QSL bureaus which will receive your QSL cards (and a SASE), mail them out to the recipients and mail you back your cards, all without charging anything except for the initial envelope to mail your stuff back to you. Sounds like a great deal. Gary has lots of awards and obviously enjoys getting them.

Thanks to Dave and Gary for an enjoyable discussion.

Respectfully submitted,

Lily Fainter, KV4AW

Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club Board Meeting Minutes August 29, 2000

Board Present: Jim Smith, Mike Langley, Ken Graff, Wayne Ross, Murray Merner
Board Excused: Bob Fainter, Lily Fainter
Visitors: Dave Langley, Juanita Humbles

1. Special Events JOTA 3rd weekend in Oct - Have Tom discuss at Sep. meeting.
Also Tom looking into Scout Merit Badge
2. Mike reported no health and welfare situations
3. New ham class: Murray reported set for Sep 7; only one schedule conflict with Bill Dawson, Murray will fix it this weekend; Board recommended to purchase the new edition of Now You're Talking; sample of advertisement which will be in paper the two Saturdays before the class; 33 flyers mailed out to various places, phone calls to people who have shown an interest or dropped out of previous classes.

(Continued on page 9)

**Board Meeting Minutes
August 29, 2000**

(Continued from page 8)

4. Jim reported on programs. Sep may be: Dave LeMoine showing PSK31, Doug Ferris report on SET, Tom Parsons report on JOTA, officer slate presented by Nominating Committee. October may be: VOA Site A with Kinston Club. Jim was reminded to contact the Kinston Club early so they could get it in their newsletter. Absentee ballots will also be handed out. In November: election, Holiday Party planning, award nominations.
5. VE group: looks like Oct 20 will be next testing session.
6. Nothing new from equipment Committee. New trailer was discussed. Murray announced that the new trailer had been ordered and would probably be delivered around the end of Sep. Charles Mayo from the hospital is willing to look at the old trailer and make recommendations.
7. Dave announced that Ken Proffitt is expecting to return to the area. He's looking for a "ham friendly" apartment. Ham Chatter needs a little more work to finish up this weekend.
8. Murray mentioned that Bob Fainter is looking into having the meeting at activity hall of his church - looks positive so far.
9. The antenna that was damaged while loaned to Strong Angel was discussed with no resolution.
10. Wayne reported that the Nominating Committee was able to fill the slate of officer slots with volunteers
11. Meeting adjourned 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Murray H. Merner, K4MHM
President

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:
CHEAP! FREE!** Space for your ad in Ham Chatter!

**Ken Proffitt, KE4RQF,
Email to Paul, KS4YF**

It has been a while since I moved from Greenville and I am planning on returning to Greenville for a visit this fall and moving permanently to Greenville the first week in January.

I am writing hoping you or other hams in BARC would know of any "Ham Friendly" apartments or condos. I will be on a scouting trip to look at perspective communities, neighborhoods, etc and to reorient myself to Greenville.

I look forward to hearing from you and until then, 73's de KE4RQF

Pitt County ARES NCS

Mondays at 9 PM on W4GDF repeater. 147.09 MHz.

- 9-11 AF4XV ex-KU4NQ
- 9-18 N8FF
- 9-25 KD4MTT
- 10-2 KD4NNA
- 10-9 AF4XV
- 10-16 N8FF
- 10-23 KD4MTT
- 10-30 AF4XV
- 11-6 KD4NNA
- 11-13 AF4XV
- 11-20 N8FF
- 11-27 KD4MTT

The 2000 ARES NCS list is at <http://www.qsl.net/w4amc/ares/pccncss.html>.

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
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

Sept 7	New Ham Class Starts	Nov 4.	Ham Chatter Deadline
Sept 12	Regular Meeting	Nov 4-5	ARRL CW SS Contest
Sept 23-24.	Va. Beach Hamfest	Nov 14.	Regular Meeting
Sept 26	Board Meeting	Nov 18-19	ARRL SSB SS Contest
Sept 30	Ham Chatter Deadline	Nov 19.	Benson Hamfest
Oct 7-8.	SET	Nov 28.	Board Meeting
Oct 10	Regular Meeting	Dec 2.	Ham Chatter Deadline
Oct 20	BARC VE Session @ 6:30PM	Dec 12.	Christmas Party & Awards
Oct 21	JOTA	Dec 15.	BARC VE Session @ 6:30PM
Oct 28-29.	CQ WW SSB DX Contest		
Oct 31	Board 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

**Next Meeting
September 12**

September 2000

To:



PO Box 8387
Greenville, NC 27835

Ham Chatter