

Ham Chatter



Volume 37 Issue 1

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January 2003

Editor, Dave Langley, W4YDY - Email: w4amc@qsl.net

Contributing Editor: Murray Merner, K4MHM

Meet the Member Mark Weil, KD4SRK

Mark is our new First Vice-President for 2003.

Born in Chicago, Mark has certainly been around. He tells of going to twelve different schools before graduating from high school in Hunting Station (Long Island, NY) in 1980. Much of his travels were actually around the suburbs of Chicago where his dad was a slaughterhouse trouble shooter, "he'd put them back on their feet and move on." He attended college at University of Alabama and East Kentucky majoring in industrial technology.

As a youngster Mark was interested in electronics and radio. He listened to short wave, built radios and lots of Heath Kits. He got his first license in 1991 as N9KWD in Hammond, IN (a suburb of Chicago). He changed his call sign to KD4SRK when he moved to Greenville, NC for a couple of months in 1992. Later, he moved back to

(Continued on page 3)



Mark Weil, KD4SRK

Next Meeting January 14

The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club will have its next regular meeting on January 14 at 7:30 PM at VFW Post Home 7032 at 1108 Mumford Road in Greenville. The program will be high altitude ballooning and Amateur Radio presented by Billy All, N3KKM. All members, families and guests are invited to attend.

The next board meeting is set for January 28 at 7:30. The meeting is open to all members.

Dues are Due!

It's that time of the year once again. Membership dues for BARC are due January 1, 2003. The 2003 membership roster will be published in the April 2003 Ham Chatter. Those who have not paid their dues by March 21, 2003 will not be listed on the roster and will be removed from the Ham Chatter mailing and email lists.

Be sure to complete the application on page 7 of this issue of *Ham Chatter*. Everyone is requested to complete an application so records can be updated. There is also an application at <http://www.qsl.net/w4amc/application.pdf> on the BARC site that can be printed and completed. If you can't get to a meeting, mail it to **BARC, PO Box 8387, Greenville, NC 27835.**

KV4CN awarded BARC Ham of the Year

Dave LeMoine, KV4CN, BARC President, was presented the BARC Ham of the Year Award at the BARC 2002 Christmas party. Other awards were made to Bonnie Pulver, KG4CZW, YL of the Year; John McCoy, K4KBB, OM of the Year; Murray Merner, K4MHM, Elmer of the Year; and Richard Campbell, KG4SNE, New Ham of the Year. Certificates were presented to officers; Dave LeMoine, KV4CN, President; John McCoy, K4KBB, First Vice President; Jeff Hardee, K4RJH, Second Vice President; Bonnie Pulver, KG4CZW, Secretary; David Pulver, KG4CZV, Treasurer; and Board Members Mike Langley, KD4MTT, and Wayne Ross, WD4JPQ.

Certificates were presented to Murray Merner, K4MHM, New Ham Class Coordinator; Pat Williams, KG4NSC, and Dave Langley, W4YDY, Ham Chatter Editor and Web Site Editor. Certificates to Instructors for the New Ham Class were presented by the class leader Murray Merner, K4MHM, to Bill Dawson, WA4SLC, John McCoy, K4KBB, Gary Gasperini, AF4XV, Dave Langley, W4YDY, Bernie Nobles, WA4MOK, Wayne Ross, WD4JPQ, and David LeMoine, KV4CN.

Tom Parsons, W4TEP, VE Coordinator for BARC, presented certificates to Byron Highland, K4BMH, Dave LeMoine, KV4CN, Murray Merner, K4MHM, Susan L. Jones, WA4AKB, Dave Langley, W4YDY, Gerry Clayton, K4IDD, and Gary Gasperini, AF4QV, for their assistance in the VE program.

Everyone enjoyed a great covered dish meal before the award ceremony.

President's Corner *Dave, KV4CN*

Looking back on 2002, it was a great year for the club. Good club activities, a great Field Day, new hams, new members, etc. All are signs of a healthy club. Everyone has themselves to thank, and we can all take pride in our club. On behalf of the board, thank you for all of your efforts that made 2002 a great year. As I wrote last year, continuous improvement is the key to success... being better today than yesterday, becoming better this year than last year.

Continuous improvement is usually not big strides, but small steps. The

...great Elmer program for new hams.

"magic pills" or "silver bullets" are few, if they exist at all. "A steady pace wins the race."

It is said that good things come in threes. So 2003 ought to be a good year for BARC. And it is starting with a bang. January starts the Boy Scout merit badge class, February has the merit badge class, VOA special event, NC QSO Party (?), March is rest, April is the Dogwood Festival, May is rest, June is Field Day, then we run out of ideas until December with another try at Operation Santa Claus. Please think about some fun activities between June and December. Maybe a summer cookout, a Pitt County VHF contest, club entry in one of the big HF contests, public service events (we need to participate in these for public exposure...lets work to keep our spectrum). The Spring is the time to talk with the public schools about a starting a school club, or offering assis-

tance with next year's senior projects (all Pitt County seniors must do a senior project that involves a mentor activity. A couple of years ago, a young lady got her license through a BARC class as part of her senior project). Bring your ideas to the meetings or contact me direct.

Bernie, WA4MOK, has started a great Elmer program for new hams. His idea is to directly work with new hams once they get their license to get them off

to a good start and a good start usually means that they stay in the hobby.

It answers the question of "Now what?" after someone passes their license test. Please let Bernie know if you can help or would like help. Again this is a tremendous idea and reinforces the purpose of the club. An offshoot of Bernie's idea is a club member resource directory. Looking for help with microwave, contesting, SSTV, RTTY, satellite, etc? Wouldn't it be great if you could consult a list and find help from another member?

Don't forget that dues are due. And please complete the member data sheet. It is important that we confirm that we have your correct call, address, email, etc. Please don't assume that our records are correct.

Thanks for a great 2002, and happy New Year. See you at the meeting!

73, Dave, KV4CN

ARRL providing FCC license renewal, address changes, mods to non-members

The ARRL has announced that it's now providing FCC Amateur Radio license renewals, address changes and other license modification services to nonmembers. For a \$12 fee, the League will renew a nonmember's Amateur Radio ticket (the license must be within 90 days of expiration), file an application to change address or name or request issuance of a new sequential call sign. The ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator is processing these applications.

"The \$12 is in line with our calendar year 2003 exam application fee," said ARRL VEC Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ. For several years, the ARRL has been handling renewals, address and name changes and modifications free of charge for members and has directed nonmembers to the FCC's free Internet or hard-copy application options or to other providers of such services.

Jahnke suggests that nonmembers who now choose to employ the League's application handling service also consider adding \$27 (based on the current under-65

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Happy Birthday

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

- 2 KD4AFL Mac Manning
- 6 KF4RBJ Joyce Griswell
- 16 W4EHF Bill Finch
- 26 W4UTO Mary Knapp

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

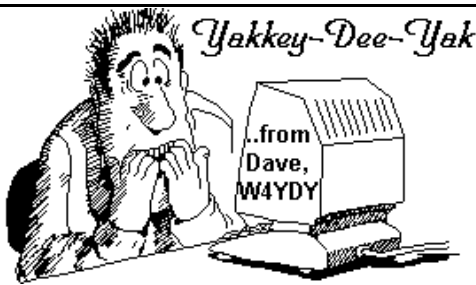
BARC Patches and Power Pole Connectors Available

If you have not bought your BARC patches or power pole connector sets, there are still many available.

Patches are \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00. They can be sewn onto hats, shirts, or jackets.

Power pole connectors are \$7.50 for 10 sets of connectors.

Anyone interested in purchasing either of these can do so at the regular club meetings or contact John McCoy, K4KBB.



Meet the Member - Mark Weil, KD4SRK

(Continued from page 1)

Greenville in 2001 to be closer to his father and stepmother. Subsequently, he got a job at the Nissan Dealer as a Service Advisor.

Other jobs have included: Joining the Navy in 1981; the Army National Guard from 1989 to 1991; being the production supervisor for eight years in a factory which modified semi trucks; and being in the computer industry in technical support, sales and network development.

While Mark has a Technician Class License he has passed the written exams through the Advanced Class (when it existed) but has been stymied by the code like many others. His equipment consists of a handheld, Yaesu VX 150 and a mobile Azden PCS 4000. His main interests have been public service and emergency and has been a member of ARES, RACES and SATERN (Salvation Army). He also remembers fondly the Sat. morning breakfasts the members of his former club would have. Also, they were on the repeater a lot more than around here because of the long commute

to work.

His involvement in BARC has been Field Day. He has an interest in getting new people to get active with events and socialization.

Other interests include reading, especially espionage, WWII and Holocaust non-fiction. He likes to travel with Europe next on the list.

Mark is married to Carol and he has a 14 year old daughter Daniel. His brother Bryan, KG4UAZ, recently got his license and is a member of BARC too. Mark's other brother Aaron has been in Tel Aviv, Israel for ten years where he is a press spokesman for the Israeli Army.

Mark is a rather new member to BARC and has gotten more involved this year by being a vice president. From his own and the experiences of others, he has recognized the need to focus on the new member. This is a lesson for all of us - without new members BARC will cease to exist. Please support Mark as he tries to make our new members feel welcome and involved. Thanks for your concern and effort Mark. *K4MHM*

There is an article about the 11 year sunspot cycle on page five of this newsletter. As you can see from the article, we are moving down the cycle now and propagation will not be near as good for DX and other operations as it has been for the last couple of years. During the high peak, the 10 meter band was active all day every day and 20 meters was active all night. Now 10 is fairly quite and 20 goes dead a little while after sunset now. You can hear a few signals but not many. It looks like the cycle will hit bottom around 2005 or 2006.

It's been a lot of fun operating the last couple of years working DX without much effort and working the pile-ups trying to get that rare "county" that the DXpeditions go to. There will probably be fewer DXpeditions for the next few years. Even with the few contacts I make in contests, in the 2000 and 2001 CQ DX Worldwide Contests, I worked exactly 100 countries both years with less than 600 contacts. That was because the propagation was outstanding. It will be around 2010 before conditions will be as good as they have been for the last couple of years for DX.

Before all the VHF and UHF FM repeaters came along in the 1970's, a lot of locals got on 10 meters at night to talk to each other. It was not unusual for some stations from other parts of the United States to call in when the skip rolled in. During the last low of the cycle, there were several local hams in Pitt County that got on 10 meters at night to ragchew. I got in with them several times and also talked to some stations in Craven County on 10 meters. The Techni-

cians with Code have privileges on 10 meter phone. That allows more hams to use part of the band.

Even though the propagation will not be as good for the next few years, there are still plenty of activities for Amateur Radio. Many operators do not notice much change, if any, in their type of operations. At some of the low cycles, it did not affect my operations very much although I was not as active as I have been for the last few years.

Everyone still looks forward to having a great time at Field Day operations. Come to think of it, it's time to begin thinking about Field Day for June 2003! - *W4YDY*

ARRL providing services to nonmembers

(Continued from page 2)

full term member rate of \$39) for a full ARRL membership that includes free application handling and other services--not to mention QST.

Members or nonmembers taking advantage of this service should submit NCVFC Form 605 <<http://www.arrl.org/fcc/forms.html>> to ARRL VEC, 225 Main St, Newington CT 06111 USA for processing. Nonmembers should make the \$12 fee payable to "ARRL." For more information, contact ARRL VEC, vec@arrl.org. - via *ARRL Letter Online* 1/3/03

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FCC poised to renew computer hackers ham ticket

An FCC Administrative Law Judge has recommended that the FCC grant the Amateur Radio license renewal application of convicted computer hacker Kevin D. Mitnick, N6NHG. The Initial Decision <http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-02D-02A1.pdf> by Chief Administrative Law Judge Richard L. Sippel released December 23 comes approximately one year after the FCC designated Mitnick's license renewal application for hearing.

"Right now, my goal in life is to live a productive life and to earn a living and try to make up for all the time that I lost and try to be a productive citizen," Mitnick told an FCC hearing last June 18. The Commission had cited character issues stemming from Mitnick's history of illegal computer-related activity--which included several convictions and prison sentences and two years on the run.

Mitnick testified that he's decided to turn his life around and dedicate himself to a career in broadcast radio, public speaking, and writing to help government, businesses, and individuals minimize the risks associated with computer intrusions. Following his release from prison, Mitnick said, he has been law-abiding and has no desire to return to his former life.

In his Initial Decision, Sippel wrote, "There is reliable evidence that Mr. Mitnick has focused on becoming an honest, productive citizen and that he has the means to continue to do so." Sippel said that Mitnick has been on the amateur bands since his release from prison and there have been no complaints regarding his on-the-air behavior. "The evidence in its totality shows Mr. Mitnick to have an overall record of compliance with Commission rules," Sippel concluded.

Unless exceptions are raised within 30 days or the FCC reviews the ruling on its own motion, Sippel's decision becomes effective 50 days after its release.

First licensed in 1976, Mitnick, 39, filed with the FCC through his attorney to renew his General ticket not long

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Operation Santa Claus

Operation Santa Claus took place on December 20 in one of the Pediatric Units of the Pitt County Memorial Hospital. **John "Santa" McCoy**, K4KBB, was the guest of honor. While heard and not seen, Santa was able to talk to the ambulatory children in the unit using mobile and hand held rigs. Other helpers were **Dave LeMoine**, KV4CN, **David Cox**, KG4WEU, and **Murray Merner**, K4MHM.

One of the female staff asked Santa for a washer and dryer and he told her it would be a lot more convincing if she would sit on Santa's lap and talk about it some more. (A considerable amount of laughter was heard from the activity room after Santa made his comment.) Other equipment included a satellite antenna (for show) and a laptop to show the exact location of the North Pole. The children sure got a kick out of it and so did the staff. I think a couple of heart strings were tugged when the children were seen with their medical problems. - *K4MHM*



Samantha talks to Santa



Santa's helper hard at work (He sure looks familiar or did Santa forget his red pants and red hat?)

BARC welcomes new members

Peter Van Houten, **KG4WEZ**, native of Greenville and has just moved back from New York. Maria Weed, **KG4WEX**, Mindy Weed, **KG4WEY**, and Terry Monday, **KG4WEW**, recently joined the Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club. As you can see from their call signs, they are new to Amateur Radio. BARC members are always glad to help them with any questions about Amateur Radio. We look forward to seeing them all at future meetings and activities.

Also, two new members were signed up at the Christmas party. Bob Moore, **N2USB**, from Grifton joined and he holds an Amateur Extra Class license and has worked all 3077 counties five times and closing in on more awards.

Hollis Thigpen, **KC3X**, Snow Hill, signed up and he also holds an Amateur Extra Class license. Hollis is and has been very active in Amateur Radio for many years and looks forward to participating in Field Day (CW), ARES and the VE program. He is a native of Eastern NC and moved back to the area recently. Hollis is an active county hunter and has worked all 3077 counties five times and closing in on more awards.

Propagation - Cycle 23 update

Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA

The last update on Cycle 23 was in the July 2002 column, so it's time again to see how the present solar cycle is doing.

The thick line in Figure 1 shows the progress of Cycle 23 since its start in October 1996. The latest smoothed sunspot number data (the end of the thick line) is for April 2002. The predicted decline of Cycle 23 is the thin line.

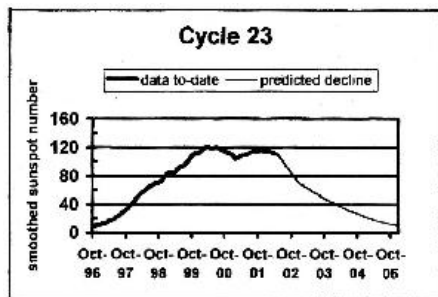


Figure 1

The July column said that Cycle 23 appeared to be going through a resurgent period - a second peak. Indeed, it's quite obvious now that Cycle 23 blessed aficionados of the higher bands (including 6M) with a second peak.

The first peak had a maximum smoothed sunspot number of 121 in April 2000. The second peak appears to have been in November 2001 at a smoothed sunspot number of 116.

Although the first peak (in terms of the smoothed sunspot number) was a

bit higher, the heavily averaged nature of the smoothed sunspot number belies what really happened. Using the concept of effective sunspot number (which was described in the July 2002 column), we can see what this second peak really did to the F region of the ionosphere.

In case you missed the July 2002 column, the effective sunspot number is that value that forces a best fit between the model of the F region and "real-time" worldwide ionosonde data. In other words, it's a parameter that's directly tied to the F region that better describes what the F region is doing "now." Plugging it into your propagation prediction software should give you a little bit better picture of F region propagation.

There are several effective sunspot number measurements from several different organizations. The two mentioned in the July column were SSNe from Northwest Research Associates in Tucson and the T Index from the Ionospheric Prediction Service (IPS) in Australia. Web sites for both of these parameters were given in the July column. I'll use the T Index in the following analysis of the second peak of Cycle 23. In case you're wondering, the T in T Index comes from the scientist who came up with thin index (Jack Turner of the IPS).

Figure 2 compares the smoothed sunspot number of Cycle 23 (from Figure 1) to the T Index.

Note that the T Index during the second peak was quite a bit higher than

the smoothed sunspot number during this peak. Additionally, the T Index was higher during the second peak than the first peak. Since the T Index is tied directly to what the F region is doing, all of this indicates that there was much more F region ionization during the second peak.

This goes a long way in explaining why 6M offered excellent worldwide propagation in the October 2001 to March 2002 time frame. The higher F region

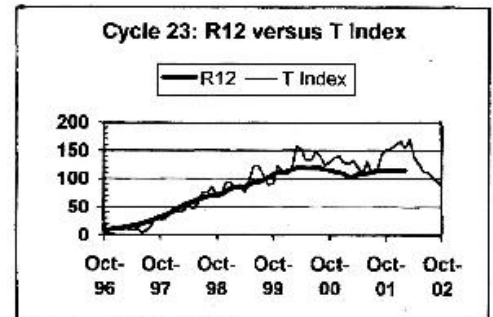


Figure 2

ionization was enough to support our 50 MHz RF. The other important factor was that this second peak occurred in the winter months, when MUFs are higher (the first peak occurred in the summer months).

Where is Cycle 23 headed? A third peak perhaps? Or just a gradual decline as predicted by the thin line in Figure 1? Unfortunately, we'll just have to wait and see.

- Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA, can be reached by sending snail mail to: 122 Pion Dr., Ft. Wayne, IN 46845; or by e-mail sent to: k91a@arrl.net. Tnx Worldradio,

Next VE Session

The next Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club VE session will be held on **February 21**. Exams will be held at St. Peter's School on 5th Street and will start promptly at 6:30 PM. Tom Parsons, W4TEP, 355-2815, w4tep@arrl.net. 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 \$10.00
- ◆ Proof of Tech Plus if before 3/21/87 and doing paper upgrade to General.

Email addresses

Please send me your new addresses so I can update my records. I need the correct addresses to notify members when the latest *Ham Chatter* goes online, important notifications and update the email roster on the web site. - W4YDY

K4KBB

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BARC Monthly Minutes - December 2002

BARC Monthly Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, December 10, 2002
6:30 pm at the VFW hall

Members and visitors introduced themselves.

A Holiday Potluck was held and enjoyed by all who attended.

Meeting was opened.

The previous minutes were approved. The secretary and treasurer's reports were given.

Certificates of Thanks were given by Murray Merner K4MHM to all who have helped with the Ham Radio Classes during 2002:

Bill Dawson, WA4SLC
Dave Langley, W4YDY
John McCoy, K4KBB
Bernie Nobles, WA4MOK
Gary Gasperini, AF4XV
Wayne Ross, WD4JPQ
David LeMoine, KV4CN

Certificates of Thanks were given by Tom Parsons W4TEP to all who helped with the VE Sessions during 2002:

Byron Highland K4BMH
Dave LeMoine KV4CN
Murray Merner K4MHM

Susan L. Jones WA4AKB
Dave Langley W4YDY
Gerry Clayton K4IDD
Gary Gasperini AF4QV

Certificates of Thanks were also presented to:

Murray Merner, K4MHM, New Ham Class Coordinator

Pat Williams, KG4NSC, Publicity Chairman

Dave Langley, W4YDY, Ham Chatter and Web Site Editor

Awards were presented as follows:

Ham of the Year

Dave LeMoine, KV4CN

YL of the Year

Bonnie Pulver, KG4CZW

OM of the Year

John McCoy, K4KBB

Elmer of the Year

Murray Merner, K4MHM

New Ham of the Year

Richard Campbell, KG4SNE

Certificates of Thanks were presented to 2002 officers as follows:

President Dave LeMoine, KV4CN
1st Vice President, John McCoy, K4KBB

2nd Vice President, Jeff Hardee, K4RJH
Secretary, Bonnie Pulver, KG4CZW
Treasurer, Dave Pulver, KG4CZV
Board Member, Mike Langley, KD4MTT
Board Member, Wayne Ross, WD4JPQ

The new Officers on the Board of Directors for 2003 were introduced:
PRESIDENT

Dave LeMoine, KV4CN

1st VICE-PRESIDENT

Mark Weil, KD4SRK

2nd VICE-PRESIDENT

Jeff Hardee, K4RJH

Secretary

Taylor Millar, KG4SNC

Treasurer

John McCoy, K4KBB

1 year trustee

Mike Langley, KD4MTT

2 year trustee

Richard Campbell, KG4SNE

Meeting was closed.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Pulver KG4CZW

BARC Board Minutes - December 2002

BARC Board Meeting: December 30, 2002

Attending: Dave LeMoine, KV4CN; John McCoy, K4KBB; Mike Langley, KD4MTT; Bonnie Pulver, KG4CZW; Dave Pulver, KG4CZV; Mark Weil, KD4SRK; Pat Williams, KG4NSC; Dave Langley, W4YDY; and Jeff Hardee, K4RJH.

TREASURER REPORT: John McCoy, K4KBB, reported present funds on hand to be \$2,166.72. It was also mentioned that annual dues are now due. He also will have the club patches and power pole connectors for sale.

PAST OFFICERS RECOGNIZED: Bonnie Pulver, KG4CZW and Dave Pulver, KG4CZV, were applauded for their fine work and dedication to the club.

Dave Langley was also commended for his good work for the club concerning the web page and Ham Chatter.

OPERATION SANTA CLAUSE: Dave LeMoine reported the success of Operation Santa Clause conducted at Pitt Memorial Hospital with the children.

FEBRUARY MEETING PROGRAM: A speaker will present the Echolink system using a radio/repeater with computer. This will also be the 36th year birthday party of BARC.

VOICE OF AMERICA SPECIAL EVENT: The VOA Special Event will be held at VOA Site C on Saturday, February 8, 2003 to celebrate the 40th anniversary of VOA in Greenville. Setting up the rhombic antenna setup was discussed.

BOY SCOUT MERIT BADGES: The

Boy Scout merit badge classes will be held from 9:50 AM to 12:00 noon of Jan. 18th, Feb 1st, and Feb. 15th. Dave LeMoine is working on this project and may need others to help with this.

Respectfully submitted,

Taylor Millar, KG4SNC

December 13 VE Session results

December 13 Ray Vickers, KG4SNB, passed the code test with perfect copy and upgraded his Technician license. Congratulations Ray from everyone at BARC.

Tom Parsons, W4TEP, VE Liaison, was assisted by Dave LeMoine, KV4CN, Dave Langley, W4YDY, Murray Merner, K4MHM, Gary Gasperini, AF4XV, and Bob Moore, N2USB.

BRIGHTLEAF AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
P.O. Box 8387, Greenville, NC 27835

Please fill out the application completely so that the club can better serve you. License information is for statistical purposes only. (Return to Secretary or mail to above address.)

Current Call Sign _____ Previous Call Sign _____

Date _____ Birth Month _____ Day _____

Name _____ Spouse _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ + _____

Phone (_____) _____ Email _____

License Class:

_____ Novice
 _____ Technician (No Code)
 _____ Tech Plus
 _____ General
 _____ Advanced
 _____ Extra

Are you a member of?

_____ A.R.E.S.
 _____ M.A.R.S.
 Other (Please Specify)

_____ Are you an ARRL member?

_____ Are you a Volunteer Examiner?

Which of the following club activities would you be willing to help with?

_____ Programs	_____ Field Day
_____ Publicity	_____ VE Sessions
_____ Elmer sessions	_____ Training classes
_____ Club Offices	_____ Other _____

DUES:

Associate Member - (Non-Licensed)	\$ 5.00
Honorary Member	none
New Hams Age: 18yrs. or younger - (First Year)	\$ 5.00
New Hams Age: 19yrs. or older - (First Year)	\$10.00
Regular Member	\$20.00
Family Member-(Living in same household with another member)	\$ 2.00

Revised 12/01

2002 Membership Dues

It's that time of the year once again. Membership dues for BARC will be due January 1, 2003. The 2003 membership roster will be published in the April 2003 Ham Chatter. Those who have not paid their dues by March 21, 2003 will not be listed on the roster and will be removed from the Ham Chatter mailing list. Membership dues are the same as they were in 2002, and are as follows:

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

Please mail your dues, along with the member application form to:

Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 8387
Greenville, NC 27835

We are requesting that you send the application form in, so that we can have your correct information on file.

If anyone has any questions concerning their membership status or their dues, please call me at (252) 758-1719 or e-mail me at k4kbb@arrl.net. Thank you for your support and participation in BARC.

John McCoy, K4KBB
BARC Treasurer

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@qsl.net

For Sale:

Joe Aleksa, KQ4BN, SK, Estate.

1. Ten Tec Omni VI Plus Transceiver, \$1500, Power Supply PS 960, \$150, Ten Tec desk mike, \$40, all for \$1650.

2. Cushcraft R7 Vertical Antenna, \$200

3. Heathkit test equipment, IG-62 Color bar generator, IM-11 VTVM.

Contact Dave Langley, W4YDY, 321-2525 or email w4ydy@arrrl.net

For Sale:

Mosley TA-33 HF Beam. 10, 15, 20 and 40 meters. 3 elements with 40 meter extension. \$200.

Wayne, WD4JQP, 756-7719

For Sale:

Mosley Classic 33 \$100. The center part of the reflector was bent in hurricane Floyd. I worked on it and got it as straight as I could.

Bill Dawson, WA4SLC, 946-4760 or dawsonw@mail.ecu.edu.

Wanted:

Two or three 10 foot sections of Rohn 25G Tower, used or new. Hollis Thigpen, KC3X, Snow Hill. Ph: (252) 747-3282.

Email: hthigpen@icomnet.com

ARRL QSL Service ends 2002 just shy of 2 million cards

With sunspot numbers slowly starting to decline, it may be a while before the ARRL QSL Service <<http://www.arrrl.org/qsl/qslout.html>> again sees the sort of activity it dealt with in 2002. During the past year, the service mailed out 1,963,165 cards from ARRL members to DX stations. That's up by 30,850 over 2001--or approximately 1.6 percent. The final day's QSL card shipment to exotic and rare entities--done every 90 days--was 148,050 cards alone. "Overall, it's been a pretty good year for the bu-

Packet users requested to not send e-mail messages to ISS crew

Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) International Chairman Frank Bauer, KA3HDO, has requested that amateurs refrain from sending e-mail to the ISS crew via the onboard RS0ISS Personal Message System (PMS). "The crew is not answering the e-mail, and we really don't expect them to," he said. "If things change, we'll let you know." Reports have indicated that the ISS packet mailbox is filling up with unread messages, many of them greetings to the crew or holiday greetings. The all-ham Expedition 6 ISS crew consists of Crew Commander Ken Bowersox, KD5JBP, cosmonaut Nikolai Budarin, RV3FB, and astronaut Don Pettit, KD5MDT. - via *ARRL Letter Online* 1/3/03

Computer hacker

(Continued from page 4)

after his US District Court conviction in August 1999. His ham license was due to expire in December 1999, but the FCC extended his operating authority while his renewal application was pending. Mitnick reportedly spent some \$16,000 in legal fees to retain his ham ticket.

Following a similar hearing earlier this year on character issues, the FCC recently granted the Amateur Radio license application of Herbert Schoenbohm. Last month, Schoenbohm regained his previously held KV4FZ call sign via the vanity call sign system. Upon his return to ham radio after a nearly two-year absence, he initially was issued NP2MJ as a sequential call sign. - via *ARRL Letter Online* 1/3/03

Editors Note: Mitnick was the computer hacker that was finally captured in Raleigh, N. C. after a nationwide manhunt. He spent several years in prison.

reau," said ARRL QSL Service Manager Martin Cook, N1FOC. "We got the cards sorted on time with no backlog this year." Cook said most members have been sorting their cards properly before sending them to the ARRL QSL Service for shipping. "Unsorted cards really slow things down," he said. - via *ARRL Letter Online* 1/3/03

Commercial Ad Rates

1/8 page, Business Card Size

\$10 per Month - \$100 per Year

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ATTN: Dave Langley or email w4ydy@arrrl.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, Tuesday, 2100 on 145.21 MHz
- ◆ Carteret County ARS (CCARS) Emergency Net, Tuesdays, 1930 on the Newport 145.45 (-) 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
- ◆ 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

Jan 14.	Regular Meeting	Feb 25.	Board Meeting
Jan 18-19	ARRL VHF Sweepstakes	Mar 1.	<i>Ham Chatter Deadline</i>
Jan 25-26	CQ WW CW 160M Contest	March 1-2	ARRL SSB DX Contest
Jan 28.	Board Meeting	Mar 11.	Regular Meeting
Feb 1.	Ham Chatter Deadline	Mar 23.	Downeast Hamfest, Kinston
Feb 8.	VOA Special Event - W1VOA	Mar 25.	Board Meeting
Feb 8-9	CQ/RJ WPX RTTY Contest	Mar 29.	<i>Ham Chatter Deadline</i>
Feb 11.	Regular Meeting	Mar 29-30	CQ WW SSB WPX Contest
Feb 15-16	ARRL CW DX Contest	Apr 8	Regular Meeting
Feb 22-23	CQ WW SSB 160M Contest	Apr 13	RARSfest, Raleigh

Regular Meeting - 2nd Tuesday @ 7:30 PM
Board Meeting - Last Tuesday @ 7:30 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 1 V O A

Printing courtesy of Xerox



January 2003
Next Meeting
January 14

To:



PO Box 8387
Greenville, NC 27835

Ham Chatter