

# Ham Chatter



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## Meet the Member Maurice Ankrom, N4WVA

Born in New Castle IN, Maurice lived in Illinois as well before coming to NC. After high school he attended the Manhattan Bible College in Manhattan, KS getting a BA in Bible and BA in Theology in 1953. He started preaching even while in MBC. In 1950 he preached every other Sunday in Freeman, MO. He later attended the Christian Theological Seminary getting a Bachelor of Divinity in 1961 and a Doctor of Ministry in 1975.

After graduation from MBC he became the minister of the First Christian Church in Madison, IN for 14 years. After that he ministered at East Lynn Christian Church in Anderson, IN for 8 years. He became the minister of the Timothy Christian Church in Gardnersville, NC in 1986. He was there for 8 years and then became an interim minister for churches who temporarily find themselves with out a minister. He retired Jun 30, 1993 (isn't it amazing that people know that exact

*(Continued on page 3)*



Maurice Ankrom, N4WVA

## Next Meeting March 11

*The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club will have its next regular meeting on March 11 at 7:30 PM at VFW Post Home 7032 at 1108 Mumford Road in Greenville. Richard Campbell, KG4SNE, Field Day Chairman for 3002, will lead a discussion about planning for the June event. He will be looking for ideas and help with the different areas. Volunteer your help where you can help. All members, families and guests are invited to attend.*

*The next board meeting is set for March 25 at 7:30. The meeting is open to all members.*

## The dreaded Red Dot!

Membership dues for BARC were 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. The red dot is for those that have not paid as of 2/26/03. There might be some in the post office that have not been added.

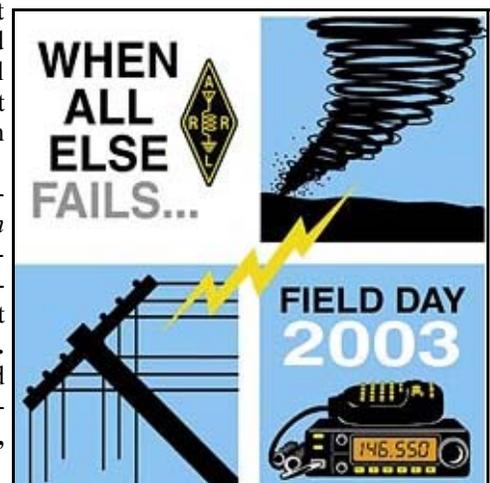
Be sure to complete the application on page 7 of the January issue of *Ham Chatter*. Everyone is requested to complete an application so records can be updated. There is also an application at <http://www.qsl.net/w4amc/application.pdf> on the BARC site that can be printed and completed. If you can't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

## Voice of America Special Event Station W1VOA

VOA receiving station at Site C took to the air during the BARC sponsored special event celebrating the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Edward R. Murrow VOA Station in Greenville. The event generated 220 contacts. The event offered a certificate for a SASE, and to date, we have received about 100 requests. It was a lot of fun and thanks to all who participated. A special thanks goes to Doug, K4ROK for station set-up and access and to Paul, KS4YF for acquiring ECU permission to operate at the site. - KV4CN

## Donations

*Thanks to the members that have donated stamps and money for the mailing of Ham Chatter. Donations are tax deductible.*



# President's Corner *Dave, KV4CN*

At work, we often ask new managers to describe their dream for their department. What would they like to do? What would their department be like? So I'll ask you to think about your dream for the club (I'm not going to use the word vision as its overused and dream is such a better word). What would you like to see the club become or do? Take a moment and think about it.

Done? Now bring one idea to the next meeting and share it

**...bring one idea to the next meeting...**

with all of us. We'll put them together, choose what we can do and set a plan in motion. One of my dreams is that the club have a level of excitement that there is always something going on. Can you help me?

We have had a good start with club activities and will continue through Field Day. But then we hit a big dry spell. We need some club activities for the Fall. We also need some public service activities.

It is with complete understanding that the board accepted the resignation of Mark Weil as First Vice President. As it should be, time for family and work comes first and Mark felt that he couldn't devote the necessary time to the club. Mark took it straight from the Amateur's Code. *Number 5: A ham is Balanced. Amateur radio is a hobby that is not to conflict with fam-*

ily, school, or work. On behalf of the club, thanks Mark for your interest and help and see you at the meetings.

As we enter the spring and summer months the potential for severe weather increases. Emergency communications is a central part of our hobby and I encourage everyone to become member of ARES and to participate in the weekly nets. Further, I challenge you to be a net control station for just one Monday night net. If an emergency were to occur, don't assume that you wouldn't be needed to be a net control station. It may so happen that you would be the best choice.

See you at the meeting!  
73, Dave KV4CN

## KG4NSC sister passes

Pat William's, KG4NSC, BARC Public Relations, sister passed away February 14, from cancer. She had been ill for the past year but her sudden death was unexpected. His sister, Esther Gail Williams of Greensboro, was in her late forties. She was an employee of Proctor & Gamble and lived with their elderly mother, that she helped care for. The BARC extends their condolences to Pat and his family.

# BARC/W4AMC participates in NC QSO Party

Last year BARC participated as a club in the NC QSO Party. We did it again this year. The goal was to top our 2002 score and we clobbered it with a score of 13,565 points (2002 was 7,358 points). Operators at the event were Doug, K4ROK, Tod, KG4CCX, Richard, KG4SNE, Scott, KG4PZQ, Peter, KG4WEZ, and Dave, KV4CN. It was fun. At times we had leisurely QSO's and other times we were at the bottom of a pile-up logging stations like air traffic controllers landing aircraft at Atlanta. This was a great warm-up for Field Day, and I think the "bug" bit a few of the operators. Club events like this are a great way to experience the HF bands and gain confidence on the air. In the future I hope that members with any class license will participate. Next year's goal is to not beat our 2003 QSO score, but to beat our 2003 participant "score". As with the VOA Special Event, special thanks to Doug, K4ROK and Paul, KS4YF for their support. See you next year and maybe we can make it a Real Party. - KV4CN

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**Happy Birthday**

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

- 3 KC4UCW Jane Lindsley
- 7 W3OHF Winford Crockett
- 9 WB4RQG Leland Tucker
- 9 NW4S Jeff Wainwright
- 14 KD4MTR James Hoover
- 17 KC4CZV Dave Pulver
- 18 WA4DX Donald Corley
- 20 K4MHM Murray Merner
- 23 KD4SRK Mark Weil
- 25 W4UEF Rick Parker

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

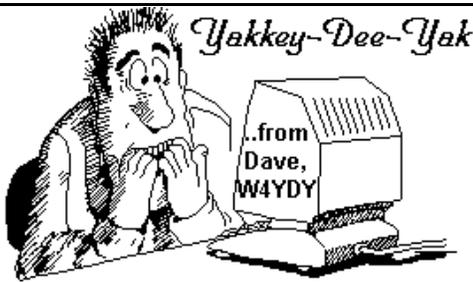
## BARC Patches and Power Pole Connectors Available

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. These connectors are becoming a standard for many Amateur Radio organizations.

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



## Meet the Member - Maurice Ankrom, N4WVA

(Continued from page 1)  
date).

He got interested in amateur radio by way of a young man in his congregation in Madison. The young man went on and got his license and sent Maurice a rig when he was in Gardnerville. Maurice attended a class taught by Br. Simon Jaworski, KQ2V, getting his Technician license in May 30, 1989 and his Technician Plus in Nov 2, 1993. He passed the General written test but it lapsed.

Basically, Maurice just liked to get on the radio and talk. His activity was on 2 and 10 meters His 2 meter rig is a Yaesu hand held, but he didn't remember the details of the HF but did characterize it as an old bottle job Drake with a separate VFO. He was a member of the 10/10 Club and participated in their contests. He joined BARC when he got his license and was active in ARES manning a shelter for one hurricane. He notes that there is a Christian Church Disciples of Christ national amateur radio club called the Disciple Radio Club which, among other things, is used to support their missionaries.

Other interests include Civil War history. His great grandfather and two great grand uncles were from Ohio and fought in the war including in NC. In fact, it seems that they actually fought against the great grand father of another BARC member, David Cox, KG4WEU, at the Battle of Wyse Fork (small world!). He and David have gone to the battle site together and gotten some artifacts. In 1996 Maurice started the Statewide Camp

of Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War which was open to the families of Union soldiers who fought in NC. He served as the first Camp Commander, then a secretary and is currently the historian. They established the Major General Thomas Howard Ruger Camp One, NC. Like many hams, he has a background in Boy Scouts and has been awarded the Silver Beaver award and the District of Merit and served as a Commissioner.

Maurice and wife Thelma, a retired school teacher, have two grown daughters. Rachel lives in Ashville and has three children. Karen is in League City, TX with two boys - the older one is in the Marines and is preparing to go to war. Maurice is recovering from bypass surgery in Aug 2002 and participates in rehabilitation regularly. While none of his immediate family is a ham, he notes that nephew John Ira Ankrom, KG9JA, and his wife Dorothy, KB9VUA, in Indianapolis are hams.

Maurice is a BARC member but not an active one. When they came to Greenville in 1993 he did not have room for his antenna. (he recently gave the tower and bam to David). We appreciate Maurice's support of BARC and encourage him to get active in Amateur Radio and BARC. (I suggested that a ten meter vertical might not take up too much room and if he needed help to call on us.) Again, you can see we come from very diverse backgrounds and have other interests in common with other members. - *K4MHM*

Another weekend of contests on the radio. As I am writing this, the ARRL SSB DX contest is in full swing. I made 100 contacts on Saturday in just over 2 hours and 50 on Sunday in just over an hour by operating on 10, 15 and 20 meters. I did contact 50 countries. Looks like if I'm going to spend more time in contests, BARC is going to have to get another editor! But really, I'm not spending as much time as I have in some past contests. I have only operated a few hours in each.

So far in 2003, I have made contacts in eleven contests, 4 RTTY, 3 CW, 3 SSB and one contest using both SSB and CW. This totaled out to 305 contacts on RTTY, 460 contacts on CW and 220 contacts on SSB for a total of 985 contacts in the contests. During this time, I worked all 50 states and 88 countries in 2003 by the first weekend of March. Anyone interested in working DXCC or WAS can spend 3 or 4 hours a weekend in some contests and it will total up quick. It does not take a lot of power. I used 100 watts on CW and 50 watts on RTTY. Although I used 600 watts in most SSB contests, this past December, I ran 100 watts in the 10 meter contest and operated SSB and CW.

I got back on CW last July and have made over 2000 contacts using that mode since then. Most have been in the County Hunters net and contests. During the ARRL CW DX contest a few weeks ago, I worked Hawaii to finish WAS on CW and ran my CW county total to over 100. That puts my DXCC total on different modes to 276 on SSB, 146 on RTTY and 105 on CW. My total DXCC on all modes is 281.

There are many Amateur Radio operators that have done much better than I have. The reason I am writing about this is for those that have got their license recently. It doesn't take a lot of time or power to have a lot of fun contacting stations in other states and countries. For the new ham, it is very exciting to

make those first contacts to distant stations.

Last September, I installed a new mobile rig in the car and have already contacted all 50 states from the car. So you can also see that it doesn't take a large antenna to do the job. In the February 2003 CQ Magazine, there is an article about an operator in Virginia that contacted over 100 countries, 500 counties, 400 prefixes and all 40 zones

worldwide from his mobile station in the year 2001. Over half were on CW.

In this column last month, I left out the assistance that John McCoy, K4KBB, gave me in the antenna installation on my car. He machined a very nice upper bracket to stabilize the antenna. Thanks John. - *W4YDY*



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## Hollingsworth preaches courtesy, common sense

FCC Special Counsel Riley Hollingsworth told those attending his forum at the Richmond, Virginia, Frostfest February 9 that Amateur Radio enforcement still has a long way to go, but that amateurs can do a lot through peer pressure to head off problems before they become enforcement issues.

"Enforcement is no substitute for courtesy and common sense," Hollingsworth declared. "More courtesy would go a long way. Hollingsworth again suggested that amateurs "operate so that listeners will be impressed with Amateur Radio," not offended or turned off by it. He said awareness of Amateur Radio is on the rise in the wake of media attention since September 11, 2001, and, more recently, with ham radio assistance in the search for debris from the shuttle Columbia. He pointed to 20 and 75 meters as the current enforcement hot spots as well as the bands where the least courteous operating practices are found--some of which he described as "a disgrace" to the Amateur Service.

Off-the-air peer pressure, he said, is an effective tool to provide guidance to amateurs who may be unaware of how they sound to others on the air. The reactions of some hams when they confront interference--or perceived interference--can be worse than the original interference--whether or not it's deliberate. "Don't overreact," Hollingsworth advised. "The best reaction is no reaction whatsoever."

"You have to always be aware of your image and be willing to protect it," he told those gathered in the packed forum. "You can't shoot yourself in the foot." More than 1000 attended the Richmond Frostfest, sponsored by the Richmond Amateur Telecommunications Society <<http://www.rats.net/>>.

The use of new technology and on-the-air experimentation also sometimes brings controversy to the amateur bands, Hollingsworth said, and may prompt an occasion for the FCC to revisit its current Part 97 Amateur Service rules. Hollingsworth pointed to the use of so-

## Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act reintroduced in US House

The Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act has again been introduced in the US House of Representatives. The measure is an ARRL legislative initiative. Florida Rep Michael Bilirakis put the latest version of the bill, HR 713, into the legislative hopper on February 12. It has been referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce. When last introduced in 2001, the measure was known as HR 817.

The House bill already has two cosponsors, Reps John Boozman, Arkansas, and Patrick Tiberi, Ohio. Both cosponsored last year's bill.

HR 713 is aimed at ensuring the availability of spectrum to Amateur Radio operators. It would protect existing Amateur Radio spectrum against reallocations to or sharing with other services unless the FCC provides "equivalent replacement spectrum" elsewhere. Bilirakis, a Florida Republican, has twice before sponsored similar legislation at the League's recommendation. A Senate version of the bill is pending.

The measure would amend the Communications Act to require the FCC to provide "equivalent replacement spectrum" to Amateur Radio and the Amateur-Satellite Service in the event of a reallocation of primary amateur allocations, any reduction in secondary amateur

called "enhanced SSB," where experimenters have been attempting to achieve full-carrier AM-like high-fidelity audio in that mode. Hollingsworth said the presence of the enhanced SSB experimenters has led to complaints to the FCC--as many as 20 per week--that these signals are taking up excessive bandwidth.

Hollingsworth told his Richmond audience that deliberately operating a wideband mode in a crowded spectrum is "shortsighted and rude," may be ignoring the "minimum bandwidth necessary" rule. If its use isn't accompanied by courtesy and common sense, he said, it will lead to pressure on the FCC to revise the Amateur Service rules.

The "Emission Standards" section of Part 97--specifically §97.307(a) and (b)--requires amateur transmissions to not oc-

allocations, or "additional allocations within such bands that would substantially reduce the utility thereof" to amateurs.

The 2001 version of the measure attracted 53 cosponsors in the House but last spring became one of many pieces of legislation caught up in the so-called "Enron logjam," during which the Internet and Telecommunications Subcommittee did not meet, although its full committee, Energy and Commerce, held numerous hearings concerning Enron.

The ARRL is urging members of the Amateur Radio community to contact their representatives in Congress and request that they cosponsor HR 713. Experience has shown that, while most members of Congress understand and appreciate the benefits of Amateur Radio, some may be reluctant to sign onto a technical piece of legislation without some indication of support from their own constituents. A sample letter is available on the ARRL Web site.

The text of HR 713 is available via the Thomas Web site <<http://thomas.loc.gov/>>. Enter "HR713" in the "Bill Number" window. ARRL asks that members soliciting their members of Congress to cosponsor this legislation to copy their correspondence to the League via e-mail to [specbill03@arrrl.org](mailto:specbill03@arrrl.org). - via *ARRL Letter Online* 2/21/03

copy "more bandwidth than necessary for the information rate and emission type being transmitted, in accordance with good amateur practice" and to "not cause splatter" on adjacent frequencies.

Hollingsworth said the bandwidth of a given signal is not easily determined by the average amateur transceiver--even one equipped with a band scope of some sort. He pointed out that the problems with apparent splatter can be aggravated by the use of a noise blanker on the receiving end. "Just because it sounds wide doesn't mean it is wide," he said, adding that he'd prefer the amateur community come up a way to accommodate such experimentation, because "a government solution will be worse than the problem." - via *ARRL Letter Online* 2/14/03

## Yugoslavia becomes Serbia-Montenegro

Yugoslavia's parliament has voted to formally abolish that nation and replace it with a new country called Serbia-Montenegro, which were the two remaining Yugoslav republics. In accordance with a deal arranged by the European Union and aimed at keeping the two republics together, Serbia and Montenegro will continue to share a capital--Belgrade--and a joint administration for defense and foreign affairs.

The new arrangement will have little immediate impact on Amateur Radio. For DXCC purposes, Serbia and Montenegro will be considered a single entity--at least for the time being--and amateurs

there are expected to continue using YU/ YT prefixes. The situation could change in three years when residents of the two republics would be allowed to vote to stick together or go their separate ways. Yugoslavia was established in 1918 as the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes. DXCC criteria are available on the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/awards/dxcc/rules.html#sii>>. - via *ARRL Letter Online* 2/7/03

## Viewing and commenting on petitions the FCC puts on public notice

Members of the amateur community (and the general public) may comment via the Web or e-mail on any Petition for Rulemaking that the FCC has put on public notice and assigned a rulemaking (RM) number. Visit the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) page <<http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/>>, which includes detailed instructions. To view a petition and/or any comments filed, click on "Search for Filed Comments" on the right-hand side of the page and enter the RM number in the "Proceeding" field. You must enter "RM" in upper-case letters and include the hyphen followed by the appropriate five digits. To file comments, click on "Submit a Filing" on the right-hand side of the ECFS page or see the instructions on how to file comments via e-mail. A typical comment period runs 30 days from the date the FCC puts a petition on public notice. - via *ARRL Letter Online* 2/7/03

## Have you paid your dues for 2003?

The annual roster will be printed in Ham Chatter if all goes well. Only paid up and life members will be included in the roster. A lot of activities are planned for this year so there will be a lot of chances to participate in the fun. If you can't get to a meeting, mail an application and dues to **BARC, PO Box 8387, Greenville, NC 27835.**

## Thirteenth Annual Down East Hamfest March 23

The Down East Hamfest will be held at the Lenoir County Fair Grounds on Sunday, March 23, 2003. Talk in on the Grifton repeater, 146.685 MHz. The doors open at 8 AM and goes to 3 PM.

FCC exams start at 11 AM and it is for walk-ins only. Be sure to bring an original and a copy of your license or certificate and Credit Certificate (if applicable).

Prizes include an HF transceiver and hourly prizes. You must be present to win the hourly prizes. Admission is \$4 each or 3 for \$10 in advance or \$5 each or 3 for \$12 at the door. (Pre-register by March 15).

Economical meals and refreshments will be available on the grounds.

## Boy Scout Merit Badge Fair

BARC sponsored the Radio Merit Badge at the Boy Scout Pitt District Merit Badge Fair. Lea, Troop 826, Matt, Troop 46, Chris, Troop 30, and Mark, Troop 46 all earned the merit badge. A straight key and code practice oscillator and Murray's, K4MHM crystal radio were the hits of the class. Many thanks to co-instructor Murray, K4MHM for his help and to Bonnie, KG4CZW, Tom, W4TEP, and Tod, KG4CCX for assistance and support. All scouts had a good time. A happy customer is your best advertisement, so maybe these scouts will "talk-it-up" when registration begins next year. - *KC4CN*

## Next VE Session

The next Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club VE session will be held on **April 18**. 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](mailto: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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## Field Day gets a new entry class for 2003

Field Day will gain another entry class for the 2003 running of this highly popular operating event June 28-29. "Class F" stations will operate at emergency operations centers--or EOCs. The change renews the emphasis of Field Day's 1933 origins as an emergency preparedness exercise as opposed to a routine contest--what former ARRL Communications Manager F. E. Handy, WIBDI, called "a test of the emergency availability of portable stations and equipment." In Handy's view, Field Day would focus attention "on the subject of 'preparedness' for communications emergencies."

## "Class F" stations will operate at emergency operations centers

ARRL Contest Branch Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, says the League last year received a record 2110 Field Day entries from groups and individuals. That represented a total of almost 35,000 participants who joined in what Henderson called "a great tradition."

Given the increased emphasis on emergency communications since September 11, 2001, Henderson says, the ARRL Board's Membership Services Committee asked that the Contest Branch come up with a way to accommodate stations wanting to operate from the local EOC. The new Class F station, operating from an EOC, is the result.

"This is a major change," Henderson said. "Class F has been established to encourage groups to test and further their working relationships with established emergency operations centers." The updated rules and a list of frequently asked questions in the new 2003 Field Day Packet <<http://www.arrl.org/contests/forms>> spell out the details.

A Class F entry station must set up at an "established EOC" activated by a club or non-club group. An EOC is defined as a facility established by a federal, state, county, city or other civil governmental agency or administrative entity or

## Hams aid Columbia Debris Search in Western states

Amateur Radio operators continued their involvement with efforts to locate space shuttle Columbia debris, as NASA's search shifted focus to include points west of Texas. According to NASA, the search for parts is running along the shuttle's re-entry path--basically 60 miles north or south of a line from San Francisco, California, to Lafayette, Louisiana.

New Mexico amateurs were among those helping to check in the Albuquerque area. "Based on a number of sources and analysis, NASA had reason to believe that debris from the shuttle Columbia may have impacted in Embudito Canyon," read a statement on the New Mexico Search and Rescue Support Team Web site <<http://www.nmsarsupport.org/>>. The team includes a number of hams in its ranks.

NASA wanted to follow up on both radar and eyewitness reports of possible shuttle debris in Embudito Canyon--in the Sandia Mountains east of Albuquerque. Authorities asked the NM SAR Support Team to provide communication and incident base support February 15 for a massive search involving more than 150 searchers. Although several small objects were found in the rugged terrain, none were attributed to the Columbia.

by a chapter of a national or international served agency. The latter could include the American Red Cross or The Salvation Army, with which the Field Day group "has an established operating arrangement." Class F EOC operation must take place in cooperation with the EOC staff. Class F stations are eligible for the same bonus points as Class A stations.

There's also been what Henderson called "some tweaking" in the rules for Field Day 2003. Among the highlights, the rules reduce from 400 to 100 the number of QSOs that the "Get On The Air" (GOTA) station needs to make to claim a 100-point bonus. "GOTA stations still may work up to a maximum of 400 QSOs to go towards the main station's score," Henderson said.

In addition, the 2003 rules en-

Keith Hayes, KC5KH, of the NM SAR Support Team estimates that more than 40 Amateur Radio operators participated in the effort, serving as incident command staff, providing communications for tactical and logistics support, and as members of field search teams.

"In addition to providing tactical and logistical support with its specialized communications trailer, 14 ham radio members of the New Mexico SAR Support Team provided additional APRS tracker and field team GPS track data collection," Hayes said. "Bernalillo County ARES Search and Rescue provided additional off-site logistical communications."

On February 24 near Caliente, Nevada, investigators continued to look for possible debris from Columbia that was tracked by air traffic control radar. Materials have been found in the area, but so far none have been confirmed to be from Columbia, NASA said.

NASA has asked anyone in Arizona, Nevada, New Mexico, and Utah for help in locating any material that may have fallen from Columbia as it was re-entering Earth's atmosphere. "Everyone is asked to be on the lookout for possible shuttle material 60 miles north or south of the re-entry track," NASA said in a news release. - *via ARRL Letter Online 2/28/03*

hance the bonus for having an invited official visit the Field Day site. There are now two separate bonus categories--100 points for the elected official and another 100 points for a visit by a representative of a served agency.

Henderson reminds Field Day participants that stations do not get additional bonus points for contacting stations through additional satellites. As of the 2002 event, Field Day opened up to stations throughout the Americas, not just in the US and Canada.

Henderson encourages participants to post their Field Day experiences and photographs to the Field Day Online soapbox <<http://www.arrl.org/contests/soapbox/>>. - *via ARRL Letter Online 2/7/03*

## Six-Year-Old Oregon girl gets General ticket

A six-year-old girl from Roseburg, Oregon, has upgraded from Technician to General. Mattie Clauson, KD7TYN--a fourth-generation Amateur Radio operator in her family--could be the youngest General-class operator in the US. Her new ticket was granted January 13.

Mattie allowed that the Element 3 test "was pretty hard" and she had to study for a long time before passing it on her third attempt. "The Element 3 test was a lot harder than the Tech test," she said. She was ambivalent about the 5 WPM Element 1 Morse code exam, characterizing it as "not too hard, just a little, but kind of easy too."

Her parents, Tim and Charlotte Clauson, AC7SP and KD7QZB, say Mattie became interested in Amateur Radio when she was five. The Clausons discovered "a kid-friendly study book," *Ride the Airwaves with Alpha and Zulu* by

### ...the 5 WPM Element 1 Morse code exam, characterizing it as "not too hard, just a little, but kind of easy too."

John Abbott, K6YPB (no longer in print--Ed). The Clausons say Mattie, who already knew how to read, dove into it right away. Her mom and dad helped her to study, explained the "hard questions" and encouraged her to take practice tests at various Web sites. She obtained her Technician license last July and became KD7SDF.

The Clausons said Mattie learned Morse code using several different computer programs, and they helped her practice by tapping out letters--and later words--for her. In the end, she passed her code exam on the very first try. For the time being, Mattie says, she's sticking with phone operation but plans to give CW a try in the future. Mattie says she prefers HF over VHF "because I can talk to people in other countries."

Home schooled with her sisters, Mattie loves to read, and that may con-

## FCC proposes fine for Iowa ham accused of intentional interference

The FCC has proposed fining a Nebraska Technician-class Amateur Radio operator, Scott E. Kamm, N0UGN, of Waterbury, \$12,000 for alleged willful and repeated interference, broadcasting of music and failing to identify with his call sign. The FCC's Kansas City office released the Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture (NAL) on January 24.

Responding to complaints of continuing interference on the input of a 2-meter repeater, FCC agents monitored the frequency last December 9. They observed "very strong signals on the frequency 146.31 MHz consisting of music, sound effects and unmodulated carriers" and no station ID. The FCC said the transmissions were "interfering with existing communications in progress" between other amateur stations.

The FCC said it used direction-finding techniques to determine that the source of the signals was Kamm's residence in Waterbury. The next day, an FCC agent monitored the same sorts of transmissions, tracked the source to Kamm's residence, and inspected Kamm's amateur station.

"The agent found an amateur

tribute to her precocity. Among her favorites books are those by Cynthia Wall, KA7ITT, *Encyclopedia Brown*, and Nancy Drew. Her parents say ham radio has been a very useful tool in home schooling--in terms of letter recognition, spelling, science, geography and other subjects.

The Clausons say Mattie doesn't consider herself "someone special" since passing her General test, and neither do they. "We do not feel that Mattie has any abilities above any other child," Charlotte Clauson said.

For her part, Mattie says she hopes that she can be an inspiration to other youngsters her age to get involved with Amateur Radio. "I think that since I got my license, whether Tech or higher,

radio transceiver capable of operating on 146.31 MHz," the FCC said. Kamm claimed no transmissions were made from his station and that he used the unit to receive only.

Based on its evidence, however, the FCC Kansas City office determined that Kamm "willfully and repeatedly" violated FCC Part 97 rules "by causing intentional interference, broadcasting music and failing to identify with his station call sign." The FCC determined that the appropriate fine was

### "willfully and repeatedly" violated FCC Part 97 rules

\$12,000 and ordered Kamm to pay the fine within 30 days unless Kamm seeks a reduction or appeals the proposed forfeiture.

peals the proposed forfeiture.

Kamm already has come to the attention of the FCC's Enforcement Bureau. He was the target of several letters and an FCC Warning Notice from Special Counsel Riley Hollingsworth during 2002. Last fall, the FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau set aside Kamm's amateur license based upon complaints about the operation of his station and questions regarding his qualifications to be a licensee. Kamm's license expired last September, and his renewal application has reverted to a pending status while the matter was referred to the Enforcement Bureau. - *via ARRL Letter Online 2/21/03*

other kids can do it also," she said. Mattie's late great grandfather, S.A. "Sam" Sullivan, was W6WXU; his daughter, Joan Brady--Mattie's grandmother--now holds his former call sign.

"The ham community has also been very supportive, especially in the Roseburg area," said Charlotte Clauson. "Their enthusiasm has made Mattie's experience with ham radio very positive." An article on Mattie Clauson appeared February 3 in the *Statesman Journal of Salem, Oregon* <<http://news.statesmanjournal.com/article.cfm?i=56021>>.

Tim, Charlotte and Mattie Clauson all are ARRL members. Mattie and her mom now are working on their Amateur Extra tickets. - *via ARRL Letter Online 2/7/03*

## BARC Monthly Minutes - February 2003

**BARC Monthly Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, February 11, 2003**  
**7:30 pm at the VFW hall**

Dave LeMoine KV4CN called the meeting to order, and asked everyone to introduce themselves. He called for reports from the secretary and treasurer.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** Taylor Millar, KG4SNC, reported receiving ham radio club newsletters from several clubs, and these would be available to look at after the meeting.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** John McCoy, K4KBB, reported income from all sources during January. He reported only two bags of power pole connectors left, but he has lots of patches for sale.

**HEALTH AND WELFARE:** It was mentioned that Wayne Ross, WD4JPQ, stopped by the special event recently, and he looked good.

**EQUIPMENT:** It was suggested that we get a screwdriver antenna to go on the trailer. It was estimated that one would cost around \$ 325.00, and a motion was called for to approve this purchase. It was also discussed to have a cap of \$

350.00 which was voted on and approved by the club.

**VE SESSIONS:** Tom Parsons, W4TEP, reported that the next VE session will be held on February 21<sup>st</sup> at St. Peter's School at 6:30 pm.

**NEW HAM CLASSES:** Murray Merner, K4MHM, reported that the room was reserved for the next classes to start after Labor Day in September.

**ARES:** Bernie Nobles, WA4MOK, reported on the Area 22 meeting held in Columbia.

He said that they were trying to get more cooperation between counties to help nearby counties if needed.

**HAM FEST:** Byron Highland, K4BMH, talked about the 13<sup>th</sup> Down East Ham Fest to be held on March 23<sup>rd</sup>. Tickets are \$ 4.00 each or 3 for \$ 10.00, and he announced prizes to be awarded. He also reported about the different vendors to attend.

**SPECIAL EVENT:** Dave LeMoine, KV4CN, talked about the success of the Special Event held at VOA site C. He reported about 220 contacts. Taylor Millar said that it was his first time talking

on HF, and others mentioned enjoying the event.

**BOY SCOUT MERIT BADGES:** Dave LeMoine reported that 4 Boy Scouts are taking the merit badge training. They will be on the air at their last meeting talking on high frequency bands.

**DOGWOOD FESTIVAL:** Byron Highland said that the Dogwood Festival will be the last weekend in April. We will have the same location as last year. We will have a signup sheet at the next meeting.

**ELMER SESSIONS:** Bernie Nobles, WA4MOK, reported about the Elmer Sessions which are being held every 2 weeks. There have been two Elmer Sessions so far. The first was about repeaters, equipment, antennas. The second was about operating practices plus more antenna information. The next meeting is scheduled to be about wiring up rigs and antennas plus getting on HF.

**REFRESHMENTS OR SUPPLIES FOR SPECIAL EVENTS:** Byron Highland mentioned having refreshments or supplies for members at special events, and to budget money for this. The misc. budget

*(Continued on page 9)*

## BARC Board Minutes - February 2003

**BARC Board Meeting:**  
**February 25, 2003**

Attending: Dave LeMoine, KV4CN; John McCoy, K4KBB; Mike Langley, KD4MTT; Pat Williams, KG4NSC; Dave Langley, W4YDY; Taylor Millar, KG4SNC; Richard Campbell, KG4SNE..

**TREASURER REPORT:** John McCoy, K4KBB, reported annual dues are now due, and some have still not paid. He also has a lot of the club patches and a very few power pole connectors for sale. He also mentioned a change of selling one ticket for a dollar instead of three for a dollar on the 50/50 drawing. The odds would be exactly the same and be a two-thirds savings to the club for tickets. It was agreed that the club would need to approve this at a future meeting.

**HEALTH & WELFARE:** It was mentioned that Wayne Ross, WD4JPQ, was

still having treatments to help with his condition. It was also mentioned that Juanita Humbles, KE4JWK, was having treatments for her condition. It was also mentioned that Jeff Hardee, K4RJH, was sick and could not attend the board meeting.

**EQUIPMENT:** It was reported that Bernie Nobles, WA4MOK, will be purchasing the club's new Screwdriver Antenna for the trailer. This will give us an easy set-up for anything.

**HAMCHATTER:** Dave said that the red dot on address label will indicate dues not paid. If you see the red dot, it is a reminder to pay our dues.

**BOY SCOUT MERIT BADGES:** Dave LeMoine reported that four Boy Scouts got their merit badges after attending his classes over the past several weeks.

**N.C. QSO PARTY:** The North Carolina QSO Party was held this past Sunday at VOA site C. It was reported that they

had 122 contacts.

**DOGWOOD FESTIVAL:** Byron Highland, K4BMH, has us in QST announcing the dogwood festival which will be on April 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> which is a Saturday and Sunday. we had last year.

**FIELD DAY:** The Field Day event is scheduled to be next to Lowe's again this year on June 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>. Richard Campbell, KG4SNE, will chair this event, and will be calling on all to help make this a great event.

**IDEAS FOR PUBLIC SERVICE:** It was announced to be thinking about having one day in the spring to have mobile radios checked for SWR, output, etc. We talked about advertising this event, and it was said that this might help get new club members.

**MARCH MEETING:** An advanced Pre-Field Day meeting session is planned to get our ideas on what we should do

*(Continued on page 9)*

## BARC Monthly Meeting Minutes

*(Continued from page 8)*

change from \$ 100.00 to \$ 200.00 for this was voted on and approved by the club.

**FIELD DAY CHAIRMAN:** Richard Campbell, KG4SNE, will be chairman of the Field Day Event this year. A number of members have agreed to help Richard with this.

**VOA SITE C FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES:** Peter Van Houten, KG4WEZ, mentioned looking into the possibility of using VOA Site C as a place for school students to learn more about radio, etc. Several expressed interest in pursuing this venture with local educators.

**CAKE AND ICE CREAM:** Everyone enjoyed the cake and ice cream for the club's anniversary party served by Bonnie, KG4CZW and Tom, W4TEP, her Dad. It was good.

**SPECIAL MEETING PROGRAM:** A special program about using Echolink with the radio was presented by John, KE4TZN. He told about the technical procedures of Echolink with computers and repeaters, etc.

**SPECIAL EVENT MOVIE:** A movie made at the Special Event at VOA Site C by Peter, KG4WEZ, was shown at the end of the meeting. This movie showed operators on the HF radio making contacts around the country, and the antenna farm at the VOA site. This movie also had sound, and was a great presentation enjoyed by all, thanks to Peter.

**BOARD MEETING:** The next board Meeting will be on February 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm at Mike's Marine. All members are invited.

**ADJOURNMENT:** With no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

**Taylor Millar, KG4SNC**

## Dogwood Festival

BARC will operate its second special event of the year at the 16th Annual Farmville Dogwood Festival. The event is April 26 and 27. Please put it on your calendar. More details next month.

# 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. 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. Reduced to a bargain \$150.

Wayne, WD4JPQ, 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.

## BARC Board Meeting Minutes

*(Continued from page 8)*

getting ready for this. Ones who have worked with Field Day in the past will explain the procedures to newer Hams and others interested. Everything about field day will be discussed at this meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT:** With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

**Taylor Millar, KG4SNC**

## 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@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.
- ◆ 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***

Mar 11 . . . . .	<b>Regular Meeting</b>	May 3 . . . . .	<i>Ham Chatter Deadline</i>
Mar 23 . . . . .	Downeast Hamfest, <b>Kinston</b>	May 13 . . . . .	Regular Meeting
Mar 25 . . . . .	<b>Board Meeting</b>	May 24-25 . . . . .	CQ WW CW WPX Contest
Mar 29 . . . . .	<i>Ham Chatter Deadline</i>	May 27 . . . . .	<b>Board Meeting</b>
Mar 29-30 . . . . .	CQ WW SSB WPX Contest	May 31 . . . . .	<i>Ham Chatter Deadline</i>
Apr 8 . . . . .	<b>Regular Meeting</b>	June 10 . . . . .	Regular Meeting
Apr 13 . . . . .	RARSfest, <b>Raleigh</b>	June 20 . . . . .	BARC VE Session
Apr 18 . . . . .	BARC VE Session	June 24 . . . . .	Board Meeting
Apr 26/27 . . . . .	Dogwood Festival	June 28 . . . . .	<i>Ham Chatter Deadline</i>
Apr 29 . . . . .	<b>Board Meeting</b>	<b>June 28-29 . . . . .</b>	<b>ARRL Field Day</b>

**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 I V O A**

***Printing courtesy of Xerox***



**March 2003**  
**Next Meeting**  
**March 11**

To:



PO Box 8387  
Greenville, NC 27835

**Ham Chatter**