

Ham Chatter



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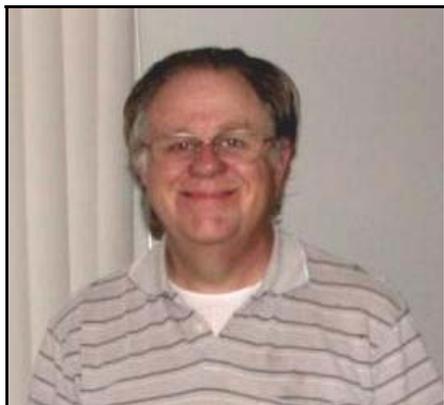
Meet the Member Bill All, N3KKM

Bill first got interested in Amateur Radio in the mid 1960's when in school in Columbia, SC. He read books, but having no mentor (or ham course) and the challenge of the Morse code, he really didn't pursue a license. Like a lot of kids of his day Bill, with the help of this dad, put a Knight Kit (Allied Radio, Chicago) short wave receiver together about the time SSB was getting popular.

Bill severed in the Navy from 1965 to 1969 where he was a Sonar Technician. He served on the destroyer "The Warrington" out of Newport, RI. After discharge he stopped in Pennsylvania to visit his uncle and got a job with United Telephone (later became Sprint). This where he met his wife Susan, N3RAL.

In 1991 while in telephone school for Sprint, he came across a fellow student teaching two others Morse code; Bill joined in. In about a week he could handle 5 WPM and before the end of his telephone school, he passed the Novice

(Continued on page 6)



Bill All, N3KKM

Club Officer elections in November

Elections for BARC officers for 2004 will be held at the November 11 meeting.

The following members were nominated for by the membership at the October meeting.

President: **Mike Langley, KD4MTT**
1st VP: **Byron Highland, K4BMH**
2nd VP: **Dan Drake, KG4ISO**
Secretary: **Taylor Millar, W4WTM**
Treasurer: **John McCoy, K4KBB**

Director **Richard Campbell, KG4SNE**, has another year to complete on his two year term and **Dave LeMoine, KV4CN**, as past President, will serve a one year term in the other director position.

Members of the Nominating committee were Dave Langley, W4YDY, Mike Langley, KD4MTT, John McCoy, K4KBB, and Bernie Nobles, WA4MOK.

Attention Club Members!

It's that time of year again. Members will select **BARC Ham of the Year**, **OM of the Year**, **YL of the Year**, **New Ham of the Year** and **Elmer of the Year** by secret ballot at the November 11 meeting. Be thinking about your selections. Announcements of the winners will be made at the December 9 Christmas Party and a plaque will be awarded the Ham of the Year and others will receive certificates.

Ham of the Year recipients are not eligible again for 3 years. Ineligible this year are W4YDY and KV4CN.

Next Meeting November 11

The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club will have its next regular meeting on November 11 at 7:30 PM at VFW Post Home 7032 at 1108 Mumford Road in Greenville. Elections will be held. Also voting on Ham of the Year, and OM, YL, Elmer and New Ham of the Year. Tom Mclaughlin, KE4NQP, will do the program "How an AC current becomes a radiated RF signal". All members, families and guests are invited to attend.

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

Amateur Radio Technician License Course

Class 5: Nov 15 Exam: Nov 22

Contact: Murray Merner,
K4MHM

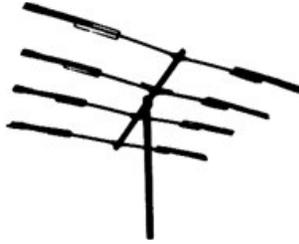
757-3429 or k4mhm@arrl.net

Another award!

Hollis Thigpen, KC3X, completed another Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club (MARAC) award with the county hunters. On November 1, he contacted a "K" prefix station in a New York county. He is only the third Amateur Radio operator to contact all 3077 counties with all stations using the "K" prefix. Congratulations Hollis!

President's Corner - Dave, KV4CN

The other week I attended a meeting concerning the loss of manufacturing jobs in North Carolina. The factors are many, but as I listened, I couldn't help but draw parallels to Amateur Radio. Loss of manufacturing firms and the potential loss of spectrum. Loss of the ability to work and the loss of the ability to be able to operate. If we are to expect any assistance from our elected officials both state and federal, we need to make our wishes heard. Our elected officials respond to two things. The first is money which they need to stay in the electoral race and which they get plenty from the special interests. The second is votes which they need to get elected. We can't hope to compete with the money of special interests, but we can control our vote and give it to the candidates most favorable to our hobby and to the service that we provide our country. In past messages, I have lightly encouraged you to make your position known to elected officials. This time I am asking you to contact our congressional members to inform them of the benefits that amateur radio provides the public and to request their support of current legislation affecting amateur radio.



ARRL can not do it alone. In the aftermath of 9/11, Amateur Radio has gained a lot of exposure. Lets keep it going. Lets all do our part to assure the continuance of amateur radio. Politicians will listen if the chorus is large and clear.

Topics of your communications can be support of PRB-1 antenna restriction legislation at the state level and at the federal level, encourage sponsorship of *The Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 2003 (HR 713 and S. 537)* and *The Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Consistency Act of 2003 (HR 1478)*. For help see the ARRL web site <http://www.arrl.org/govrelations/>. By the way, when you contact your congressional representatives, do it by email or fax. Letters take too long to reach them as all are being screened prior to delivery after the anthrax episode.

See you at the meeting!

73, Dave KV4CN

FCC cites Texas companies for alleged CB-related violations

The FCC has cited David P. Pace Jr of Nacogoches, Texas--doing business as Pacetronics and Pace Marketing--for alleged violations of Section 302(b) of the Communications Act and §2.803(a)(1) of FCC rules. The FCC says its investigation determined that Pace, through his companies, was offering for sale more than three dozen types of non-FCC-certificated CB transceivers. The FCC citation noted that Pace was marketing the devices as amateur transceivers. "The Commission has evaluated radiofrequency devices similar to those listed and concluded that the devices at issue are not only amateur radios but can easily be altered for use as Citizens Band devices as well," the Commission citation said. The FCC said dual-use CB and amateur radios can not be certificated under FCC rules. In addition, the FCC warned Pace that §2.815(b) of its rules requires FCC certification for external RF power amplifiers or amplifier kits capable of operation between 24 and 35 MHz. The FCC asked Pace to submit a written statement describing actions taken to correct the apparent violations. The FCC's Dallas office issued the citation. - via ARRL Letter Online



Happy Birthday

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

- 1 KA4WFS Walter Verdick
- 1 WA4SLD Bernice Turnage
- 8 KD4NHZ Walter Allen
- 13 KE4CTL Joyce Robins
- 26 W4RGF Robert Sickels

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

Condolences

The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club members extend their condolences to Sandra Thigpen, K4SMT, and Hollis, KC3X, for the loss of her mother on October 20 in England.

Well Wishes

Thoughts and Prayers go out to the following:

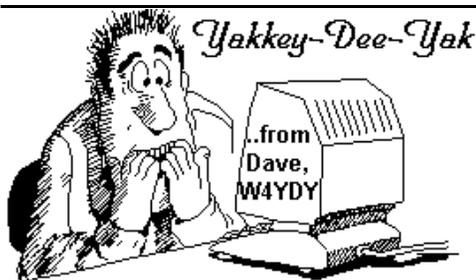
Juanita Humbles, KE4JWK, returned to the hospital October 30 for more tests.

Gail Manning, wife of Mac Manning, KD4AFL.

Bernice Turnage, WA4SLD, recently in the hospital.

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Murray Merner, K4MHM, has resigned his position of Contributing Editor of *Ham Chatter*, effective at the end of this year. Murray is also relinquishing his job as Elmer for the New Ham Class he has set up for several years. He has done an outstanding job in both positions. In addition, he has been behind several other projects in helping with some special event operations for the club and was President of BARC in 1999 and 2000. He was the Field Day chairman in 2002.

Murray has been Contributing Editor for six years. He has done over ninety five percent of the *Meet the Member* interviews and articles. He has also written many other interesting articles for *Ham Chatter*. In 2000 while he was president, he wrote a series of articles about *The Amateur's Code* that ran about every other month in *Ham Chatter*. In case you don't know where to find the Code, it's in the front of *The Radio Amateur's Handbook*. There were six articles titled after the Code. They were 1) The Amateur is Considerate, 2) Loyal, 3) Progressive, 4) Friendly, 5) Balanced, and 6) Patriotic. Murray expanded on each subject. It was reprinted in the Cary Amateur Radio Club newsletter the following year. I will miss Murray's input but I hope he will continue to write articles for *Ham Chatter*.

Do I have any volunteers for an assistant, contributing or associate editor??? I have been editor for over 6 years now (since June 1997) and have had to make a lot of deadlines. I am really glad that the post office has self sticking stamps now. It really speeds things up

getting the newsletters ready to mail. I figure that I have folded, sealed, labeled and applied stamps to about 6000 copies of *Ham Chatter*. I kind of think that it's time for someone else to think about becoming editor of *Ham Chatter* because after another couple of years, I believe it's time for a change. Someone could have some fresh ideas and that someone could get some experience as assistant editor.

There are a couple of serious situations that can have a big effect on Amateur Radio in the future. One is the Broadband over Power Line (BPL) invasion. The other is the possibility of doing away with the Morse Code requirement for High Frequency (HF) operation on the Amateur Radio bands.

If BPL is approved nationwide, the noise it generates will cover up 80 to 90 percent of the HF stations on the air now. Only the very strong stations will be able to get over the noise from power lines. Going mobile will not help unless you can find a place miles from power lines. When traveling from point A to point B, there will be power lines near the highways. When I travel on NC 43 a mile or so South of Firetower Road, I hit spots that the noise will go to over S9 on the receiver. Occasionally, the same area will be quiet but that is less than 10 percent of the time. Anyone with an HF mobile radio now can attest to the fact that the biggest problem with noise on the mobile radio is from the power line noise generated from the poorly maintained lines in use now. Adding digital information from 2 to 80 MHz will only multiply the noise many times on those frequencies. Since the power lines are unshielded, they will act like a giant antenna. If the FCC Commissioners pass the regulation to approve BPL, it will be a disaster. I don't think they are technically qualified enough to make a decision, so they should listen to the experts and not the money people if you know what I mean! Thankfully the ARRL is really putting a great effort to stop this

disaster and possibly an end to HF and DX!



The other situation is the possibility of the demise of Morse Code. I don't want to see Morse Code eliminated. There are some big voices campaigning to get rid of the Morse Code. The CQ Magazine editor has an editorial in the November issue and he wants the code eliminated. But his comparing Amateur Radio and model trains was kind of out in left field! That's worse than comparing apples and oranges. Model train layouts are not regulated by the government and there is not a limit on train layouts like there is on radio frequencies.

I was listening to 40 meters one day in October and I heard language there that could not have been any worse. There were a couple of "operators" (I use that word loosely) in NYC using every profanity in the book. If I had a tape of it, I would have sent it to the FCC. They admitted that they were former (or still) CB'ers. They don't have respect for others or Amateur Radio. I admit that we could get some good technical people in Amateur Radio if Morse Code were eliminated, but I think we will get a lot more of the type I and others heard on 40 meters. Anyone using Amateur Radio should only talk as if they would in the most polite company because you never know who is listening. I do not use the speaker when my grandson's are near my radio unless I know the people on the frequency. One frequency that I use a lot has a lot of YL's on and I know that profanity is not used there.

Some might not like it, but I wouldn't really care if the FCC put the old Morse Code exams back in at 5, 13 and 20 WPM. At least I would like to see 15 WPM for the Amateur Extra. Also, the exam should include a sending test. I think it would help those that do not like

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Yakkey-Dee-Yak

(Continued from page 3)

CW, would find they enjoyed it if they did some sending of the code.

I didn't like Morse Code when I got my license and it was a long struggle. It took me a couple of years to get the 5 WPM down and then many, many hours for the 13 and 20. But I wanted the license bad enough to keep trying. For 49 years and 9 months, I only made about 360 CW contacts. On the Novice band, I had 241 so you can see that when I got the license for HF phone, I didn't use CW except for about a year later on. I made a little over 100 contacts 15 years later when I was getting my speed up to about 23 WPM so I could pass the Amateur Extra in 1968. In the next 30 years, I made less than 10 CW contacts.

On July 1, 2002, I got on a CW net and have had very good time getting my speed back up. I almost had to learn the code again, but now I can copy my call sign and signal reports at over 30 WPM, but still like call signs at 20 or lower. It gets better the more I use it. BTW, since July 1, 2002, I have made over 2300 CW contacts and even 4 on mobile. I was parked when I did that! Many mobiles can operate while driving but I'm not near that yet!

I know some of the BARC club members really enjoy CW. Murray, K4MHM, operates mostly CW and he has been licensed less than 10 years. He found that he really enjoyed it when he got his speed up and passed the Amateur Extra at the 20 WPM speed.

I think anyone that passes a Morse Code exam, it prouder of their license than if it was just given to them without code. Just ask some of those that have recently passed the Morse Code exam in the past couple of years. They were probably more excited than when they got the first license without code.

At the November meeting, members attending vote for BARC Ham of the Year and OM, YL, Elmer and New Ham of the Year. Think about who deserves the awards that will be announced at the December Christmas Party. - W4YDY

Virginia BPL startup sparks ARRL response



The ARRL this week put officials in Manassas, Virginia, on notice that the League will act on behalf of its members to ensure full compliance with FCC regulations when the city's Broadband over Power Line (BPL) system starts up in a few months. The League was responding to media reports that Manassas--a Washington, DC, suburb--has approved plans for a citywide BPL rollout. Manassas City Council reportedly voted unanimously October 16 to grant a 10-year franchise to Prospect Street Broadband to expand a BPL field trial and offer high-speed Internet service to the entire community over municipal power lines. ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, on October 22 faxed Manassas Mayor Marvin L. Gillum to point out BPL's dark side--the potential for RF interference from and to any BPL system.

"Your advisors no doubt have made the Council fully aware of the great potential for radio interference from such a system," Sumner said. "In particular, you are no doubt well aware that Title 47 CFR §15.5 requires that no harmful interference is caused to any radiocommunication service, and that the operator shall be required to cease operation upon notification by a Federal Communications Commission representative that the device is causing harmful interference." Sumner noted that the same FCC Part 15 rule also provides no protection against interference from the operation of an authorized radio station.

"Tests conducted by ARRL technical personnel have shown that the system planned to be deployed in Manassas causes harmful interference to the Amateur Radio service," Sumner said. "We also have reason to believe that the system will be susceptible to interference from normal amateur station operations."

An article in Potomac News.com touted the impending Manassas BPL rollout as the first of its type in the US. Sumner said he was writing to alert the City of Manassas "on behalf of its members who live in and use the public thoroughfares of Manassas" that the ARRL "will ensure that there is full compliance with the FCC regulations" once the city's BPL system is in operation.

Prospect Street Broadband reportedly will offer the BPL service for \$29.95 a month. One estimate predicts the city stands to gain up to \$4.5 million over the 10-year life of the contract, due to be signed this week.

The Manassas BPL field trial is one of the smallest now under way and involves fewer than a dozen homes and businesses. It was installed in an area that has underground utility wiring and no Amateur Radio licensees nearby.

BPL articles in major media have proliferated in recent weeks, many of them painting the service in rosy hues and neglecting to point out the potential for radio interference to and from BPL by other HF spectrum occupants. An October 13 article in The Wall Street Journal, "A New Outlet," by Walin Wong, quotes one trial user who calls the service "fantastic." But Wong also notes that one "Achilles' heel" of BPL is that serving rural areas would require installing costly repeaters every mile or so along the power line. The article also deals with the reluctance on the part of some electric utilities to embrace the technology.

Sumner also reacted to the WSJ article. In a letter to the editor not yet published, he pointed out that BPL "amounts to sending a wideband radio signal over unshielded wires that were not designed for the purpose" and that do not work well for the 2 to 80 MHz signals common in BPL systems. Instead, "they function as antennas," he said, and that can lead to interference to radio services, including some involved with public safety.

Sumner said potential broadband technology and delivery investors would be far better off considering fiber in densely populated areas and adaptations of wireless LAN technology in rural areas.

Additional information on BPL and video clips from field trial sites are on the ARRL "Power Line Communications (PLC) and Amateur Radio" page <<http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/HTML/plc/>>. To support the League's efforts in the BPL fight, visit the ARRL's secure BPL Web site <<https://www.arrl.org/forms/development/donations/bpl/>>. - via ARRL Letter Online

Texas antenna case shows PRB-1 is no paper tiger

A Texas amateur antenna case has affirmed again that the limited federal preemption known as PRB-1 <<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/local/prb-1.html>> has teeth when it comes to compelling municipalities to reasonably accommodate Amateur Radio communication. It took some time, persistence and considerable aggravation, but in the end the US District Court for the Southern District of Texas--Houston Division ruled in favor of Orin Snook, KB5F, of Missouri City. The court determined in late August that Snook could keep his 114-foot antenna structure.

In a 63-page Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law <<http://users3.ev1.net/~osnook/34.pdf>> that Snook has posted on his Web site, US District Judge David Hittner said the city "failed to meet the FCC's requirement of reasonably accommodating Snook's amateur communication needs in accordance with PRB-1." Missouri City had attempted to limit Snook's tower to 65 feet, limit the size of his antenna array and required removal of the 100-foot structure for which it already had granted him a building permit. Snook, who is ARRL Fort Bend County Emergency Coordinator and an Official Emergency Station, argued that he needed the higher structure to permit him to operate VHF and UHF effectively in an emergency.

The court declared the city's height restrictions, antenna array restric-

tions and structure removal requirement "preempted, void and unenforceable." Hittner ordered the city to grant Snook a specific use permit allowing his tower and antennas to remain, although Snook must maintain an existing screening of mature trees surrounding the tower.

Although Texas adopted a PRB-1 statute in 1999, it was Snook who made the city council aware of PRB-1. Even so, the city rejected the recommendation of its planner and building inspector to issue Snook whatever permit was necessary under the relevant federal law.

The court found the city "failed to attempt to negotiate a satisfactory compromise with Snook" and rejected consideration of any height extending above the trees. Snook secured the services of professional engineer Kent Marshall, W5TXV, who testified to Snook's need for a 100-foot structure instead of the compromise 65 footer.

For Snook, Hittner's decision is half a loaf because he failed to prevail on several other non-PRB-1 issues, including purported malicious prosecution and his convictions on 21 counts of violating city statutes in the course of the years-long row. Snook alleges that his wife also lost her job with the city as a result of the dispute. The battle, he estimates, also has left him some \$35,000 poorer. "It's a tough victory that's extremely hollow right now," Snook told ARRL. "The 21 criminal convictions of ordinances writ-

ten after the antenna went up were largely ignored." Hittner determined that the city had, indeed, changed its ordinance, then required Snook to comply with it, even though it already had issued him a building permit in 1999.

Snook also points out that while the court ordered the city to pay his costs, that does not include his attorneys fees or a damage award. In addition, the city gets to keep its ordinance--which he'd tried to get thrown out. "The judge ruled strongly in our favor but protected the city as best he could too," he said.

Hittner's decision was based on case law that's well known in amateur antenna legal circles. Among decisions cited was *Pentel v City of Mendota*, argued successfully by attorney and ARRL Dakota Division Director Jay Bellows, K0QB. Also cited was *Marchand v Town of Hudson*. In that case, ARRL New England Division Vice Director and Volunteer Counsel Mike Raisbeck, K1TWF, represented the amateur involved in written and oral arguments before the New Hampshire Supreme Court, while ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, filed an amicus brief. Imlay and Bellows both discussed Snook's case with him by telephone.

Snook seeks contributions to his KB5F Legal Defense Fund via his Web site <<http://users3.ev1.net/~osnook/>>. - via ARRL Letter Online

Next VE Session

The next Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club VE session will be held on **October 17**. 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 \$12.00
- ◆ 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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Meet the Member - Bill All, N3KKM

(Continued from page 1)

exam. For six months he didn't do much, but when he joined a club he got charged up, got active and moved up to the Advanced license.

He got interested in VHF and participated in ARRL contests. To help another ham he became did land roving so he could make contacts. The challenge is getting grid squares. He did this for three years, mostly was a rover. A little later he got interested in 6 meters - mostly participating in contests and Field Day.

In 1995 he moved to Kansas City where he did a lot less VHF contesting since they do a lot less than in the east. But, he found another interest: high altitude ballooning. Not only was there an interest in Amateur Radio, but also high altitude wind currents and balloon

recovery efforts. While he was there they sent up seven balloons and were able to recover all of them. They used thigh altitude wind currents forecasts from the National Weather Service. These events usually included eight or nine participants.

Bill and Susan moved to Greenville in 2001 when transferred by Sprint. Here he is a Technical Engineer. He works on local telephone switches from the remote operations center. He also offers technical support to technicians in the switching office.

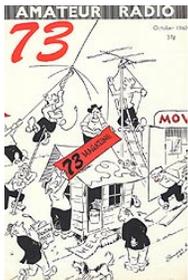
Bill lives in an apartment which limits his ham radio activity. Now ham radio is centered on Field Day and some contesting. He has done some HF radio, County Hunters (getting about half the counties) and some DX to Europe. He met Susan have been married for 35

years. Susan has been a ham for about 10 years. Their son David, N3XUD, lives in York, PA with his wife and three daughters. David is not too active in ham radio.

Other interests include astronomy - he has a 5" reflector telescope. He is a member of three astronomy clubs in Rocky Mount, and Goose Creek State Park in Washington, NC

Bill has brought his gear to Field Day including putting his antenna on top of his van to make 6-meter contacts. He also demonstrated ATV for extra point. He has recently become an instructor in the Technician License Course and he has given two presentations to the club this year. We in BARC appreciate his involvement and contributions. Thanks Bill. - *K4MHH*

73 Magazine says "73 and QRT"



First Issue
October 1960

After completing 43 years of publication, 73 Amateur Radio Today magazine is calling it quits. Plans to publish a joint October/November issue fell through this week, and the September 2003 issue was the magazine's last. According

to self-proclaimed "El Supremo and Founder" Wayne S. Green II, W2NSD, it was a simple matter of economics.

"After failing a last minute effort to collect on some larger accounts receivable we decided yesterday to throw in the towel--that the September issue will have to be the last," Green told ARRL October 9. "SK after 43 years of publishing."

The first issue of 73 was published in October 1960 from what Green--a former editor of CQ--once described as "a small, dingy apartment" in Brooklyn, New York. Since the summer of 1962, 73 has been based in Peterborough, New Hampshire--Green's home state. The magazine was a pioneer promoter of SSB, FM, solid-state, easy construction projects and the marriage of personal

computing and Amateur Radio. His interest in microcomputing led Green in 1975 to found Byte, a magazine devoted to the then-nascent and largely do-it-yourself computer hobby.

At the peak of its popularity in the 1970s and 1980s, individual issues of 73 totaled more than 300 pages of ads, articles and commentary. Heading each issue was Green's inimitable "Never Say Die"--some would say never-ending--editorial, in which he rarely missed an opportunity to tweak the ARRL and his magazine competitors for their perceived shortcomings.

QST Editor Steve Ford, WB8IMY, says 73 published his first article in the 1970s. "I was saddened to hear that 73 has ceased publishing," Ford said. "Wayne's excitement about the growing amateur FM repeater phenomenon at the time was infectious."

Green's 73 editorials and regular round of personal appearances originally concentrated on Amateur Radio and his ideas to improve, advance and grow it. In recent years, however, they've veered into conspiracy theories, cures for cancer, AIDS and other ailments and Green's proliferation of book titles on those topics.

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FCC proposes to fine broadcasters for exceeding RF radiation limits



For the first time, the FCC has proposed a total of \$40,000 in forfeitures--\$10,000 per station--against four broadcast licensees for violating the radio frequency radiation maximum permissible exposure (MPE) limits. The alleged violations occurred at a multi-user site on Mt Wilson in Los Angeles, California, where the power density level produced by each individual licensee was within acceptable limits, but the cumulative effect exceeded the limits established by the Commission. FCC rules establish MPE limits for radio frequency exposure from FCC-regulated transmitters. "If these limits are exceeded due to the cumulative RFR emissions of multiple transmitters, then all of the licensees whose transmitters produce power density levels exceeding 5 percent of the power density exposure limit applicable to their particular transmitter share responsibility for reducing RF radiation permissible levels," an FCC public notice said. FCC agents inspecting the Mt. Wilson transmitter site determined that RF

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Haynie: Letters=Voters=Support on Amateur Radio legislation

ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, says the good news is that the number of House cosponsors for the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act, HR 713, has topped 50. The Senate version of the legislation, S 537, now has eight cosponsors. The downside, Haynie says, is that the Spectrum Protection Bill as well as the Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Consistency Act, HR 1478, will need many more cosponsors if either is to succeed.

"I'm frustrated," Haynie said this week. "Neither one of these bills is ever going to see the light of day unless we get more cosponsors." While thanking those who already have done so, Haynie again encouraged ARRL members to not only urge their senators and representatives to cosponsor the bills but to write and ask them to actively support them.

"It's going to take 10,000 letters, it's going to take 50,000 letters or contacts," Haynie said. "To me, this is a no-brainer. This is something that's important to the future of Amateur Radio."

Sponsored in the House by Rep Michael Bilirakis (R-FL) and in the Senate by Sen Michael Crapo (R-ID), the Spectrum Protection Act would require the FCC to provide "equivalent replacement spectrum" to Amateur Radio if the FCC reallocates primary amateur frequencies, reduces any secondary amateur allocations, or makes additional allocations within such bands that would substantially reduce their utility to amateurs.

The latest House members to sign aboard HR 713 include representatives Jo Bonner (R-AL); John Peterson (R-PA); Albert Wynn (D-MD); George Nethercutt (R-WA); Jim Ramstad (R-MN); Barney Frank (D-MA); Todd Tiahrt (R-KS); and Fortney "Pete" Stark (D-CA). The latest Senate members to sign aboard S 537 are Carl Levin (D-MI) and Christopher Dodd (D-CT).

HR 713 has been referred to the Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet. In June, Haynie testified before that panel, telling lawmakers that that hams have lost more than 100 MHz of VHF and UHF spectrum over the past 15 years and that another nearly 360 MHz of VHF and UHF spectrum "has

been substantially compromised." S 537 has been referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

The Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Consistency Act, HR 1478--known informally as "the CC&R bill"--would require private land-use regulators such as homeowners' associations to "reasonably accommodate" Amateur Radio antennas consistent with the PRB-1 limited federal preemption. PRB-1 now applies only to states and municipalities. Introduced by Rep Steve Israel (D-NY), the bill has been referred to the House Commerce Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet and now has 29 cosponsors.

Among the latest to get onboard HR 1478 are JD Hayworth (R-AZ); David Price (D-NC); Rep Mike McIntyre (NC); Anna G. Eshoo (CA-14); and Mark Udall (D-CO). No equivalent bill yet exists in the Senate.

Haynie says that if ARRL members value Amateur Radio and want these proposals to succeed, they'll make the time to write letters or send e-mails pushing for support of the three measures. "Peoples' own words and their own expressions are what's going to count, not some canned letter from Newington," Haynie said, while conceding that a form letter "is better than nothing." Haynie said a personally crafted letter or e-mail "adds a lot of weight."

Sample letters on the ARRL Web site for the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 2003 <<http://www.arrl.org/govrelations/arspa.html#sample>> and for the Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Consistency Act <<http://www.arrl.org/govrelations/hr1478/sample-letter.html>> cite Amateur Radio's role in public safety and emergency communication.

"We'll do our part to get more organizations to support these bills," Haynie said. The League has been contacting other organizations involved in public safety that have firsthand knowledge of the value of ham radio to the public and advocating their support. But, Haynie said, letters from individual voters get the most attention.

Cosponsorship is important

while a bill is in committee, and Haynie suggests that a representative or senator who gets 40 or 50 letters from on a topic is going want to sign on to that bill.

"I can't emphasize enough the importance of that contact to the member of Congress from the constituents out there in the district," Haynie concluded, "because that's the ticket."

For guidance on the best methods of contacting your members of Congress, see "Communicating with Congress," by Derek Riker, KB3JLF, on the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/news/bandthreat/0304046.pdf>> or in the April 2003 issue of QST (p 46).

Additional information--including the bills' texts and information on how to write your congressperson or senators--is on the ARRL's "The Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 2003" Web page <<http://www.arrl.org/govrelations/arspa.html>> and on the "HR 1478, The Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Consistency Act of 2003" Web page <<http://www.arrl.org/govrelations/hr1478/>>.

Those writing their lawmakers on behalf of either bill are asked to copy their correspondence to the League via e-mail: Spectrum Protection Act, HR 713/S 637 <specbill03@arrl.org> or Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Consistency Act, HR 1478 <ccr-bill@arrl.org>.- *via ARRL Letter Online*

FCC proposes to fine broadcasters

(Continued from page 6)

exposure levels in a publicly accessible area--some 100 feet from a US Post Office--exceeded MPE limits by more than 60 percent. The FCC said measurements revealed that transmitters for four stations--KBIG-FM, KKBT, KRTH-FM, and KWHY-TV--each produced RF radiation power density levels at significantly more than 5 percent of the public RF exposure MPE limits in this area. The FCC alleges that licensees of the four stations failed to take adequate steps to prevent the public from accessing areas that exceeded the permissible RF exposure limits. The FCC reports that the stations now have taken steps to limit public access to the area where RF radiation exceeds the MPE limits. - *via ARRL.ORG*

BARC Monthly Minutes - October 2003

BARC Monthly Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 14, 2003
7:30 pm at the VFW hall

Dave LeMoine, KV4CN, called the meeting to order, and asked everyone to introduce themselves with their name, call letters, and city location. Dave also welcomed everybody to the meeting.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Taylor Millar, W4WTM, reported receiving cards from the Wayne Ross Family thanking the club for the donation to the Winterville Fire Department in memory of Wayne.

TREASURER'S REPORT: John McCoy, K4KBB, reported the current bank balance. He also reported getting a check from the Down East Ham Fest which was designated to go to Wayne Ross's repeater. This will still go towards this repeater to keep it going.

PUBLICITY: Pat Williams, KG4NSC, reported on the fund raiser for the club using Food Lion's "Shop & Share" MVP card program is now ready to go. We are registered with Food Lion already. You can go on line to www.foodlion.com and register. A portion of your grocery bill will be donated to the club each quarter. If any questions, contact Pat.

HEALTH AND WELFARE: It was reported that Joe Melton was in assisted

living at Sterling House on Arlington Blvd. No updates were mentioned on others.

EQUIPMENT: Nothing new was reported on equipment.

HAM CHATTER: Dave Langley, W4YDY, mentioned the new calendar on the club web site. It is a good looking calendar with pop-ups which explain the item in detail.

A visitor from Virginia Beach said that he enjoyed our web site, and it enticed him to visit our club. Good job Dave on giving us such a great web site.

VE SESSIONS: Tom Parsons, W4TEP, announced the next VE session would be held on October 17th at St. Peter's School on 5th Street.

MURRAY MERNER-TECHNICIAN CLASSES: As far as we know at this point, the Technician classes are progressing. Murray Merner, K4MHM, reported having about 10 people in these classes.

ARES - PITT COUNTY: Bernie Nobles, WA4MOK, reported an upcoming statewide meeting to be held in Winston-Salem in the Red Cross Building on Highway 52 North on October 25th starting at 10 a.m. There will be coffee and donuts and a break for lunch, he said. The talk-in frequency is 146.64 w/ 100 Hz. This meeting is to be an overview of statewide ARES to see what we need to

do, plus discuss selecting a statewide training officer. He mentioned a possible future ARES ID card which may be obtained through Homeland Security. He also mentioned upcoming drills such as the statewide SET and emergency training.

Doug Ferris, K4ROK, reported that the turnout from Pitt County during Isabel was lacking. Two shelters were not manned plus there were some other problems, but he did thank all who participated. He mentioned turning in the list of equipment needed. He is getting 5 new IC2720 Dual-Banders, they are to change out some of the old 5100's, and add one more Jump Kit which was lost during Floyd.

Tom Parsons, W4TEP, read a thank-you letter from the Red Cross, and he passed out Red Cross tee shirts for the ones who helped man the shelters during the Hurricane.

NEW BUSINESS: Dave LeMoine, KV4CN, asked for any other nominations for next month's election. The club voted to have Doug Ferris to get about 300 more feet of feed line for the antennas at the VOA site, plus reimburse him for the 300 feet of feed line already purchased.

Dave also told about our plans for the Project North Pole Network to be held with children in the hospital just before Christmas. Dave mentioned the Boy Scout merit

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BARC Board Minutes - October 2003

BARC Board Meeting: October 28, 2003

Attending: Dave LeMoine, KV4CN; John McCoy, K4KBB; Pat Williams, KG4NSC; Dave Langley, W4YDY; Richard Campbell, KG4SNE, Mike Langley, KD4MTT, Byron Highland, K4BMH, Taylor Millar, W4WTM

SECRETARY REPORT: Taylor Millar, W4WTM, reported that a new web page for Pitt County ARES is under construction, and can be seen at www.pittcoares.org.

One main feature of this page is audio instructions. If you have a multimedia computer with speakers and Real Audio (a free software download), you can listen to either ARES training messages or ARES news events.

TREASURER REPORT: John McCoy, K4KBB, reported on incoming funds and paid-outs during the month. He also mentioned the upcoming Benson Ham Fest on Sunday, November 16th.

HEALTH AND WELFARE: No new cases to report.

EQUIPMENT: It was reported that we still need to get the power supply for the new ICOM 706 radio purchased for the club. It was mentioned that we should get one of the switching power supplies. Byron Highland, K4BMH, will order this.

PUBLICITY: Pat Williams, KG4NSC, mentioned trying to contact other stores such as Lowes Foods, Krogers and Harris Teeter to see if they might have programs similar to the rebate program at Food Lion. It was suggested having instruc-

tions to hand out at the meeting explaining how to sign up or register for the Food Lion Rebate Program.

HAM CHATTER: Dave Langley, W4YDY, mentioned needing a new contributing editor at the beginning of the year. Murray Merner, K4MHM, has done this for over six years handling the interviews for member articles. He has also written many other articles including a series of articles about amateur code, beacons and other things.

NEW BUSINESS: "North Pole Network" with Amateur Radio (radio call to Santa), will be held again this year at the hospital on December 19th after lunch. The Boy Scout Merit badge Program was

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BARC Meeting minutes

(Continued from page 8)

badge program planned for January 2004, and a radio station set-up at a May 1st Boy Scout Camporee.

Bob Moore, N2USB, talked about the FCC proposal, BPL, to allow broadband transmissions over power lines. He said that this can cause harmful noise on HF radio frequencies. He also said we should all write the FCC to oppose this action. Taylor Millar, club secretary, said that he will write a letter to the FCC in opposition.

MEETING PROGRAM: Hollis Thigpen, N3KKM, gave an excellent presentation of county hunting. He showed all the awards that he has gotten county hunting. He totally explained all procedures and rewards to this great feat of amateur radio. Anyone interested in county hunting, contact Hollis or Dave Langley.

BOARD MEETING: The next board Meeting will be on October 28th at 7:30 pm at Mike's Marine on Highway 33 east. All members are invited to all board meetings.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business, the meeting adjourned about 9:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Taylor Millar, W4WTM

Board meeting minutes

(Continued from page 8)

planned for mid January. The State Basketball Olympics will be held in Greenville this coming March, and they have requested help with radio communications. This will run Friday through Sunday, and they will probably be based at the Hilton while operating in 10 to 12 other locations. Also discussed were elections at our next meeting, and our Christmas Party on December 9th.

Mike Langley, KD4MTT, suggested having one of our monthly meetings out at VOA Site C so that all members could see what is there and experience the communications over the large Rhombic Antennas.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business, the meeting adjourned about 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Taylor Millar, W4WTM

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:

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.

For Sale:

Hygain TH-6 tri-band beam. \$200
Hassell Bailey, W4OZV, 756-4471 or hbb929@aol.com

For Sale:

Ed Andrews (SK) estate. Kenwood TS-820 \$200. Kenwood TR-7800 2m FM \$60, GSC 35R 35 Amp power supply \$150, Shure mic \$40, Astatic D104 mic \$35, (2) Radio Shack mobile speakers \$15. Contact Annette Andrews 792-7657 (Williamston).

73 Magazine QRT!

(Continued from page 6)

Green says he'll continue his essays on his Web site <<http://www.waynegrain.com>> "for those subscribers who mainly bought the magazine for them." He told ARRL that no definite arrangements have been made yet about how to handle outstanding 73 subscriptions.

CQ Publisher Dick Ross, K2MGA, said he takes no joy from the passing of 73. "The loss of any publication serving Amateur Radio leaves all of us a bit poorer," he said. "Thank you, Wayne, for 43 entertaining, informative, sometimes infuriating, and always interesting years of 73. We'll genuinely miss it." - via ARRL Letter Online

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@qsl.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

Nov 11 **Regular Meeting - Elections**
 Nov 15/16..... ARRL SSB Sweepstakes
 Nov 16 Benson Hamfest
 Nov 22 Tech Class VE Session
 Nov 25 **Board Meeting**
 Nov 29 *Ham Chatter Deadline*
 Nov 29/30..... CQ WW CW DX Contest
 Dec 6/7..... ARRL 160 Meter Contest

Dec 9 **Christmas Party!**
 Dec 12 **BARC VE Session**
 Dec 13/14..... ARRL 10 Meter Contest
 Dec 30 Board Meeting
 Mar 21 Down East Hamfest - Kinston
 Apr 4..... 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 I V O A

Printing courtesy of Xerox



November 2003
Next Meeting
November 12

To:



PO Box 8387
 Greenville, NC 27835

Ham Chatter