

Ham Chatter



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Meet the Members, Tom & Sandy McLaughlin, KE4NQP & KI4CRC

Next Meeting May 11

For the first time, Meet the Member is Meet the Members. Tom, KE4NQP, and Sandy, KI4CRC are very active in the Brightleaf ARC and Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES). They live in Walstonburg located in Greene County. Tom is the Greene County ARES Emergency Coordinator.

Tom is originally from Elkins, WV and got interested in electronics in 1949. He built TV amplifiers and a channel 3 to 13 transmitting converter in 1951. His interest in Amateur Radio started in 1959 and he received his Novice call, WN8IYA, in 1961. In 1962, he received the Technician and was assigned WA8TBZ, but let his license expire about 1970. He was licensed again in 1996 and

now holds the Amateur Extra Class license.

Sandy developed an interest in Amateur Radio after attending several BARC meetings with Tom. She saw the need of more help with all the storm in the area and BARC community projects. She attended the BARC Technician license course in 2003 and received her Technician license on October 21, 2003 before the course ended. The FCC assigned her the call sign KI4CRC (Cute Radio Chick)!

Their equipment consists of an Icom 738, a Kenwood 22A HT, A Yeasu 2500, a Dentrion DTR1200 amplifier and a Dentron tuner. They also have an Icom 706 with AH4 tuner and a combo rig for

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The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club will have its next regular meeting on May 11 at 7:30 PM at VFW Post Home 7032 at 1108 Mumford Road in Greenville. The program will be about the ARES by Bernie Nobles, WA4MOK, Doug Ferris, K4ROK, and Byron Highland, K4BMH. All members, families and guests are invited to attend.

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

BARC helps with Tedi Bear Walk.

Members of the club provided communications for the Greenville Child Advocacy Center during their annual Tedi Bear Walk. The event lasted about an hour and a half and our assistance allowed the staff to know precisely where the walkers were along the course. At the first aid station, 3 walkers decided that they were tired and John, K4KBB, was able to call net control to dispatch a van to bring them back to the starting point. Many thanks to Sandy, KI4CRC, Tom, KE4NQP, and John, K4KBB, for volunteering their time and skills. Please consider helping next year. It is a welcomed service and provides practice for net operations and field deployment. - KV4CN

Congratulations to **Bill Dawson, WA4SLC**, winner of the "Companion" Holland Grill.



Tom McLaughlin, KE4NQP

Sandy McLaughlin, KI4CRC

President's Corner - *Mike, KD4MTT*

The Club has been very busy for the last few months with public service events. We have had great turnouts by club members and other volunteers to make the events a success.

In March club members participated in the NC Special Olympics and provided communication between the venues and headquarters. Along with hams from Rocky Mount and Tarboro, Greenville area hams provided a high level of communication expertise that provided an excellent training opportunity, while providing us with a platform to showcase our hobby and answer questions.

April brought several events. The International Festival returned this year, and the Club set up a special event station on the town commons. Throughout the day we had an opportunity to explain ham radio to visitors and meet visiting hams. All the while giving the public an opportunity to win a wonderful raffle prize.

The Teddy Bear Walk was held on the same day, and club members participated by providing communications for officials and some extra safety for the participants.

The following weekend was the Farmville Dogwood Festival in, where else, Farmville. The Club made its presence known in front of the fire station, where, once again, club members provided the public with an opportunity to purchase tickets for a wonderful raffle prize. Prepa-

rations for the 2-day special event station were done on Friday evening, with many members participating. We had beautiful weather both days. On Sunday afternoon after striking the event station, Doug, K4ROK, "borrowed" a passing child to draw the winning ticket for the raffle. See the related story for the results.

On May 1st a station was set up at the Boy Scout Camporee by Dave, KV4CN, and others. At press time I have not had an opportunity to find out what the boys thought, but a camporee station is why I am a ham today. Hopefully some of the boys will have enough interest to attend classes. Also on May 1st I talked to another Dave, KG4CZV, while he was on his way to help with the American Diabetes Tour de Cure bicycle event. I have always enjoyed helping with those when the weather is good.

Our next event, the "big one", is Field Day. Richard, KG4NSE, is heading up the event again this year. Planning is well under way, but Richard needs your input on what you would like to accomplish as a club during the event, and what YOU are willing to do to help accomplish those goals.

Set up and take down of the equipment is always a demanding time. I know that this group likes to eat, so we will need some volunteers to cook. And I know we'll need operators, especially those brass pounding types.

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Oklahoma ham earns first WAS-90 Award

It took ARRL member Jerry Rochelle, K5QM, of Altus, Oklahoma, only 72 hours to work all 50 US states and submit his application for the new "WAS in the 90th" award, which commemorates the League's 90th anniversary. ARRL Membership Services Manager Wayne Mills, N7NG, said Rochelle was the first amateur to receive the new award. Valid contacts for WAS-90 must be made between April 3 and December 31, 2004. The award is a mixed band and mode award. No official endorsements are available, but amateurs may "roll their own" by working the 50 states again in any way they wish, and then apply for another award. Each application costs \$10. Rochelle submitted his award application electronically via the ARRL Web site at 12:28 AM on April 6. Visit the ARRL Worked All States (WAS) page <<http://www.arrl.org/awards/was>> for an on-line entry form and more information about the award, including instructions on how to mail or fax an application to ARRL. The League was founded in 1914 by Hiram Percy Maxim, later 1AW, and Clarence Tuska, later 1AY. - via ARRL Letter Online 4/30/04

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Happy Birthday

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

- 12 KG4TBS Adrian Blanarovich
- 14 W4TEP Tom Parsons
- 19 KB3KR Lawry Bennetts
- 29 KV4RF Bob Fainter

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

Well Wishes

Thoughts and Prayers go out to the following:

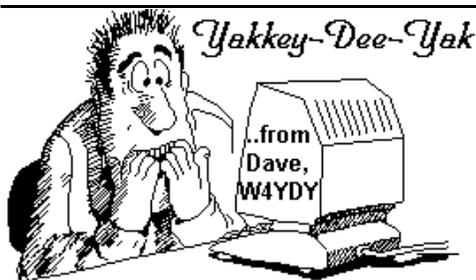
Jeff Hardee, K4RJF

Gail Manning, wife of Mac Manning, KD4AFL

Joe Melton, WB4SLF

Bernice Turnage, WA4SLD





“Atomic Clock”

I don't usually write about something that I bought but I picked up a clock at Sam's a couple of weeks ago. It is set by WWV every day so it is within one second at all times. It is mounted on the wall about 12 feet from the computer and radio and I can easily see the 2 1/2 inch numbers for the time. But it also has a number of other features. It has the date, day, moon phases and inside and outside temperature. It's 12 inches wide and 8 inches high. At the time of this writing, it is 71.1 degrees outside.

It was simple to set up. I installed 2 AA batteries each in the clock and remote sensor. It just displayed some blank dashes in place of the time and temps. Less than 10 minutes later, I glanced over and it had the correct time in EDT and temps. I set it for GMT because I use that for radio logging. It's a nice addition to the ham shack. Not bad for less than \$25.

I enjoyed going out to the Boy Scout camporee in Beaufort County on May 1 to assist Dave LeMoine, KV4CN, with a station using the special event call, **N4S**. The antenna was a 40 meter dipole. We managed to make some contacts on 40 meters. The antenna tuned up fine on 15 meters but the band was not in good shape. Maybe next time, we can use a 40-20 inverted vee and try 20 meters.

Also, Tom Parsons, W4TEP, was running a program for the scouts nearby. We had a number of scouts asking questions and passed out some flyers to them. Hope Dave does it again next year so I can go back. - *W4YDY*

FCC proposes wide-ranging changes to Amateur Service Rules

The FCC has released an "omnibus" Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) that seeks comments on a wide range of proposed Amateur Service (Part 97) rule changes. The FCC also denied several petitions for rule making aimed at altering portions of the Amateur Radio regulatory landscape and ordered minor changes in Part 97. The NPRM is a result of a dozen petitions for rule making, some filed more than a year ago and a few dating back as far as 2001. Comments on the proposals put forth in WT Docket 04-140 are due by Tuesday, June 15, with reply comments by Wednesday, June 30. Among other changes, the FCC has recommended adopting the ARRL's "Novice refarming" plan <<http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/refarm/>>.

"Because the ARRL petition addresses the operating privileges of all classes of licensees on these Amateur Service bands, we believe that the ARRL petition provides a basis for a comprehensive restructuring of operating privileges," the FCC said in its NPRM. "We note that, as proposed, no licensees would lose any spectrum privileges and that General, Advanced, and Amateur Extra Class licensees would gain spectrum for phone emissions, one of the most popular operating modes on the HF bands."

The ARRL referenced its Novice refarming proposal in its recent Petition for Rule Making, RM-10867 <http://gullfoss2.fcc.gov/prod/ecfs/retrieve.cgi?native_or_pdf=pdf&id_document=6516083735>, which, along with three other petitions (see "FCC Invites Comments on Amateur Radio Restructuring Plans," <<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2004/03/24/2/>>) remains open for comment until April 23.

The FCC also has proposed essentially eliminating its rules prohibiting

manufacture or marketing of Amateur Radio Service power amplifiers capable of operating between 24 and 35 MHz. Originally put on the books in 1978 to keep high-powered amateur amplifiers out of the hands of Cbers, the rules now "impose unnecessary restrictions on manufacturers of Amateur Radio equipment and are inconsistent with the experimental nature of the Amateur Service," the FCC said.

The FCC additionally proposed a rule change that would make Kenwood's Sky Command system legal for operation within the US. The proposed amendment to §97.201(b) of the rules would permit auxiliary operation on 2 meters above 144.5 MHz--with the exception of the satellite subband 145.8 to 146.0 MHz--in addition to frequency segments already authorized. The Sky Command system permits the user to operate certain Kenwood equipment remotely via a VHF/UHF handheld transceiver.

In response to an ARRL petition, the FCC proposed extending the bands available for spread spectrum experimentation and use to include 222-225 MHz. On its own initiative, it also recommended including 6 and 2 meters as well. Current rules limit SS emissions to frequencies above 420 MHz.

Among other changes, the FCC also proposed to prohibit acceptance of more than one application per applicant per vanity call sign; permit retransmission of communications between a manned spacecraft and its associated Earth stations, including the International Space Station; allow current amateurs to designate a specific Amateur Radio club to acquire their call sign in memoriam; eliminate §97.509(a) of the rules, which requires a public announcement of volunteer examiner test locations and times;

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Ham-Congressmen urge FCC Chairman's support for ARRL restructuring plan

The only Amateur Radio licensees in the US Congress--Rep Greg Walden, W7EQI (R-OR), and Rep Mike Ross, WD5DVR (D-AR), have written FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell to urge adoption of the ARRL's restructuring Petition for Rule Making (RM-10867) "in its entirety" along with rules changes needed to put it into place.

"We believe that this plan will encourage the development, refinement and use of new technologies; increase the number of young people involved in Amateur Radio; and provide incentives for Amateur Radio licensees to pursue technical self-training and opportunities for volunteerism in the best traditions of our country," Walden and Ross said in an April 23 letter. "We urge you to support the ARRL's restructuring plan and to implement it rapidly."

The FCC now is considering a total of nearly 1300 comments filed on the League's restructuring plan and on two other similar petitions--one from a group called the Radio Amateur Foundation, RM-10868, and the other from the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators, RM-10870. A fourth petition from Ronald D. Lowrance, K4SX, RM-10869, dealt solely with the Amateur Radio Morse code requirement. It attracted more than 200 comments be-



fore the April 23 comment deadline.

The ARRL plan proposes a new entry-level Amateur Radio license--being called "Novice" for now--that would include HF privileges without requiring a Morse code exam, consolidate the current six license classes into three and retain a 5 WPM Morse test only for Amateur Extra class applicants. It also would integrate current Technician licensees into General and current Advanced

licensees into Amateur Extra without additional testing.

"The ARRL's license restructuring plan, once implemented, will complete the Commission's [restructuring] plan, initiated in 1998, and will provide a blueprint for licensing well into the next decade," Walden and Ross said. The League's plan "is needed right now to promote greater growth of the healthy, exciting and rewarding intellectual pursuit of Amateur Radio."

Walden--a member of the House Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet--and Ross invited Powell to share his thoughts on the matter. - *via ARRL Letter Online 4/30/04*



Pot of Gold at the end of the rainbow.

WA4MOK has the pot of gold at his antenna! *Photo by KG4ISO*

Next VE Session

The next Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club VE session will be held on **June 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. 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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The Raffle

Thank you to all who participated in this year's BARC fundraiser.. Ticket sales were concluded at the Dogwood Festival on April 25th and the winner selected. The winning ticket was drawn by a pretty young lady from the crowd (with her mothers ok).

Ticket sales began a little slow at the Kinston and Raleigh Hamfest, but became much more spirited in the closing days. While I was working Saturday and was not in Farmville, our booth ran out of tickets in the early afternoon. This was, I am told, due in large part to long time Farmville area residents Harold Bailey, KD4NRB, and Byron Highland, K4BMH, who seemed to know most eve-

ryone in attendance.

After a few phone calls, more tickets were printed and available for sale in the booth Sunday. A little arm bending Saturday night at a birthday party provided some unexpected sales also.

When the dust settled 982 tickets had been sold, providing money for additional equipment for BARC. If you have a suggestion about needed equipment, please let it be known.

A special thank you goes out to Ms. Kathy Small, a Farmville resident, who made a donation to the club. While not a ham herself, she is closely related to at least two club members. When I talked with her Sunday afternoon she said that she was happy to be able to help and expressed appreciation for what the hams

do to support the community.

With Kathy's donation, \$1182.00 has been deposited to the club account. When our wandering Treasurer, K4KBB, returns from the Florida Keys with a sun tan and a thousand pictures he will give us a financial update.

Once again, thank you to all that sold tickets, bought tickets, made donations, went to Office Depot and brought more ticket paper (I'm trying to get on my wife's good side) and helped to make this fundraiser the success that it is.

Oh, you want to know who the winner is! When you see Bill Dawson, WA4SLC, ask him to let you borrow the grill for the weekend. Maybe you will have better luck than I did. **Congratulations Bill!** - *KD4MTT*

Farmville Dogwood Festival BARC activities



FCC proposes wide-ranging changes to Amateur Service Rules

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and add to §97.505(a) to provide Element 1 (5 WPM Morse) credit to any applicant holding a Technician license granted after February 14, 1991, and who can document having passed a telegraphy examination element.

The Commission ordered some changes in Part 97 without requesting comment. It ordered among others, the revision of the definition of an "amateur operator" in §97.3(a)(1) to reflect that entry in the FCC Universal Licensing System (ULS), not a license document, determines whether a person is an Amateur Radio operator.

The FCC also adopted a technical change--in line with a recent amendment to the international Radio Regulations--to specify that the mean power of any spurious emission from a new amateur station

transmitter or amplifier operating below 30 MHz be at least 43 dB below the mean power of the fundamental emission, 3 dB greater than the current requirement.

The FCC turned down a petition would have established distinct CW and phone segments in the 160-meter band. Although a majority of commenters supported the proposal, the Commission said the current voluntary band plan "adequately accommodates the operating interests of all licensees who use the 160-meter band because it was based on input from those who use this spectrum."

Among several others, the FCC turned down petitions that would have imposed restrictions on the time, length or transmission frequencies of bulletins or informational transmissions directed at the amateur community. Also denied was an ARRL request to add to the special event

call sign system certain call sign blocks that designate territories and possessions that have no specified mailing addresses. The FCC suggested using self-assigned indicators instead.

The FCC Notice of Proposed Rule Making <http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-04-79A1.doc> in WT Docket 04-140 is available on the FCC Web site.

As soon as the document has been posted, comments on the NPRM may be filed via the FCC Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) <<http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/>>. Click on "Submit a filing." To view filed comments, click on "Search for filed comments." In either case enter the NPRM number in the "Proceeding" field as "04-140" (without the quotation marks). - *via ARRL Letter Online 4/1604*

Family Disaster Planning

Have you taken the time to start planning? If not please take the time now. Spring is here and summer weather is almost upon us. Why is that a reason to start planning for disaster?

This is the time of year for what the meteorologists call "unsettled" weather patterns. Just consider what those nasty collisions of approaching cold fronts and warm weather cause. One of our biggest weather dangers prior to the hurricane season is severe thunderstorms and tornadoes, which can pop up on very short notice.

In addition to the potential for weather problems, the summer brings a higher number of people traveling by trains, planes and automobiles. The higher need for fuel to power transportation means more fuel traveling on our road and rail systems. Any incident could put us in an emergency mode.

Recently, on the same day as a disaster drill at the Greenville airport, a collision between a tanker truck and van caused a major explosion and fire. We were fortunate not to have a major loss of life or property, but highway 264, a major roadway, was shut down for some time. Just that quickly you may have needed to put your emergency plan into action. Listening to some of the radio traffic between agencies, I believe that they were effective because of their training and their emergency plans.

The Disaster Checklist: What You Need To Know

In an emergency situation you will need important phone numbers where you can get them quickly. Post emergency numbers (police, fire, doctors, ambulance, utilities, and the National Poison Control Center, 1-800-222-1222, etc.) by all your phones. Teach children how and when to use the emergency numbers.

Family members should know how to turn off the water, gas and electricity at main switches or valves. Keep any tools needed in an easily accessible location. Electricity and gas should only

be turned off if you suspect that the lines are damaged or you are instructed to do so by authorities. If a water line breaks in your home, know where to cut it off quickly to minimize damage.

Everyone in your home should know where the fire extinguishers (type ABC) are kept and how to use them.

Smoke alarms should be installed on every level of your home. Alarms should be tested monthly and fresh batteries installed at least twice a year. Smoke alarms located in attics with remote horns have saved many homes from damage caused by lightning.

Is your homeowner's insurance up to date? Do you have a current inventory of your home? Don't forget the garage and outbuildings. Use your camera to make a record of your home's contents. From personal experience I can tell you that it is hard to remember what you had when filling out insurance claims.

If you lose power determine how widespread the outage is. There are some steps that you can take to minimize the impact of an outage.

1. Notify the Power Company. Don't assume that your neighbor will call.
2. Use flashlights or battery operated lanterns for lighting. Candles and kerosene lanterns are fire hazards.
3. To protect your appliances from power surges when power is restored, turn off all major appliances, computers, TV's, etc. This will also help the utility by reducing the load.
4. Conserve the temperature in your freezer and refrigerator by keeping the doors closed as much as possible.
5. When using a portable generator use caution. Ensure that the generator is isolated from the utility lines so utility workers will not be placed in danger. Do not run generators in buildings or garages to reduce the dangers of carbon monoxide poisoning or ex-

plosions.

6. If family members use life-support equipment, provide the utility company with a list of the equipment and develop a contingency plan that includes an alternative power source.

Attending a first aid and CPR class as a family can provide the skills necessary to help each other until others arrive

One of the most important parts of your preparedness checklist should be assembling a Disaster Supplies Kit. Keep enough supplies on hand to provide each family member's needs for three to five days. Store the supplies in sturdy, easy-to-carry containers such as duffels, backpacks and covered trash containers. Be sure to include:

- a. Three to five day supply of water (at least one gallon per person per day) and food that won't spoil or require much preparation. Be sure to include a manual can opener.
- b. One change of clothing and footwear and one blanket per person.
- c. A first aid kit that includes your family's prescriptions and medications. Extra glasses or contacts should also be included.
- d. Emergency tools, battery powered radio, flashlights and plenty of fresh extra batteries.
- e. Extra set of car keys and money. Remember that if the power is out credit cards may not be of use. Keep some small denomination cash or traveler's checks.
- f. Sanitation supplies including toilet paper, soap, plastic trash bags and disinfectant.
- g. Any special-needs items for infants, the elderly or disabled.
- h. Copies of important family documents and financial in-

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Family Disaster Planning

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formation. Keep the originals in a secure place. Remember that the kit needs to be tailored to fit the needs of YOUR family. Include what you need, but it must be easy to secure and carry. Multiple containers will be required.

For more information about this subject, go to www.fema.gov/library or contact FEMA's Distribution Center at 1-800-480-2520 and ask for any of the following:

Are You Ready? A Guide to Citizen Preparedness (H-34)

Emergency Preparedness Checklist (L-154)

Preparing For Emergencies: A Checklist for People with Mobility Problems (L-154M)

Your Family Disaster Supplies Kit (L-189)

Your Family Disaster Plan (L-191)

Emergency Food and Water Supplies (L-210)

The final installment will be *Maintaining Your Plan* and will include information of how to practice your plan, restock your supplies and the need to constantly update your plan. Until then, Please **Take The Time** – while you have it.

President's corner

(Continued from page 2)

BARC is fortunate to have a large membership with a variety of skills, and for those members to volunteer to participate in these events. Without volunteers they can not happen. But it is important for us to know that when you volunteer, you will be there when needed. I thank everyone for all that they have done and will do for ham radio. I look forward to seeing you all at coming events

HAM RADIO - TALK IT UP!

Mike, KD4MTT

ARRL calls on White House to withdraw support for BPL



ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, has appealed to President and fellow Texan George W. Bush to withdraw his support for broadband over power line (BPL) technology and focus on "more suitable technologies" such as wireless broadband. The League this week also issued a call for members to support Haynie's request. In an April 26 speech at the Minneapolis convention of the American Association of Community Colleges, Bush advocated changing technical standards to encourage BPL deployment in the US. Haynie told Bush that while the League supports universal and affordable broadband access, BPL is the wrong direction to take.

"Power lines were designed to transmit energy," not broadband signals, Haynie said in a fax. "The broadband signals radiate from power lines and cause severe interference to radio reception."

Haynie said test sites throughout the US and elsewhere have amply demonstrated BPL's potential to interfere. "You may have been told otherwise; if so, you were misinformed," he said, directing the president's attention to the BPL page on the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/bpl>>.

Bush this week told the community colleges gathering that there need to be technical standards to enable new broadband technologies such as high-speed communication over power lines. "Power lines were for electricity; power lines can be used for broadband technology," Bush said. "So the technical standards need to be changed to encourage that."

"Once deployed," the president declared, "BPL has the potential to turn every electrical outlet into a broadband pipeline." Bush also suggested that BPL could supply broadband services to rural dwellers, a prospect that the League and others claim is not economically feasible.

"BPL is sometimes touted as a solution for rural areas," said ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ. "It is not." Sumner

explained that BPL signals carry only a few thousand feet down a power line and then must be repeated. "This requires a lot of hardware and will not be economical in areas with low population densities."

Bush also praised FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell and "his decision to eliminate burdensome regulations on new broadband networks' availability to homes." He also called for opening up more spectrum to make wireless broadband "more accessible, reliable and affordable" and for no taxes on broadband access.

In its BPL Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) in ET Docket 04-37, the FCC has proposed amending its Part 15 rules to adopt new requirements and measurement guidelines for so-called "Access BPL" systems. The comment deadline is Monday, May 3; reply comments are due by June 1.

In direct response to the Bush speech, the ARRL is asking its members to support Haynie's request for the White House to withdraw its support for BPL technology. "Using power lines to distribute broadband services is a bad idea that should not be encouraged," said Sumner. "It is important for radio amateurs to get the facts across to the White House as well as to our Congressional representatives and senators."

The ARRL Web site provides an information package <<http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/HTML/plc/cta/>>. It explains how members can contact the White House and members of Congress to express their views on BPL deployment.

"Do it now!" Sumner urged. "We need thousands of responses from all parts of the country, right away, if we are to make an impression."

For additional information, visit the ARRL's "Broadband Over Power Line (BPL) and Amateur Radio" page <<http://www.arrl.org/bpl/>>. To support the League's efforts in this area, visit the ARRL's secure BPL Web site <<https://www.arrl.org/forms/development/donations/bpl/>>. - via ARRL Letter Online 4/30/04

BARC Monthly Minutes - April 2004

BARC Monthly Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 13, 2004
7:30 p.m. at the VFW Hall

PRESIDENT: Mike Langley, KD4MTT called the meeting to order by asking everyone to introduce themselves by announcing their call letters, their name and their city. While the sign-up book was being passed around, the minutes from the prior meeting were approved. He then asked for staff reports

SECRETARY: Taylor Millar, W4WTM, mentioned the upcoming Williamston Swap Fest to be held May 15th at the National Guard Armory., and told about newsletters received from several other radio clubs.

TREASURER REPORT: John McCoy, K4KBB, reported on deposits made from sales of club patches, the raffle of the grill, and dues. The paid outs included purchase of a table, and postage for sending out the Ham Chatter newsletter. He also talked about the accounting for all raffle tickets, and to be turned in by the drawing day.

HEALTH AND WELFARE: Byron Highland, K4BMH, mentioned Gayle Manning, Morris Lewis, Bernice Turnage, and that Joe in Williamston.

EQUIPMENT: Mike Langley, KD4MTT, told about a recent trailer work day. It was cleaned up and inventoried. It is ready to be used Saturday at the International Festival.

PUBLICITY: Our meeting information was in the Sunday paper, Pat reported.

The times of club meetings are going on several local television stations that have free public service announcements.

HAM CHATTER: Dave Langley, W4YDY, mentioned the new roster just completed. Dave also wants everyone to get their correct e-mail address to him. He said to check the e-mail addresses on the club web page to make sure they are correct.

VE SESSION: Tom Parsons, W4TEP announced that the next VE session would be on April 16th at St. Peters School.

HAM CLASS: Robert Moore, N4USB, requested the names of all past class instructors so he could contact them about upcoming classes.

SKYWARN: Dave LeMoine reported on the recently held SkyWarn class. He said that 13 people attended the class. He also mentioned wanting to do a Hurricane Awareness Class in possibly a July time frame.

ARES: Bernie Nobles, WA4MOK, told about the April 3rd State meeting. He also announced the names of new EC's just appointed. Bernie also told about a new class to be held on April 27th from 8 to 5 p.m. in Kinston. He also mentioned a May 10th Hurricane Exercise to be held. The hurricane forecast is 14 storms for this year.

Doug Ferris, K4ROK, mentioned the new County Emergency Manager. He also reported that the tactical call signs helped greatly during the Special Olympics.

NEW BUSINESS: The Teddy Bear

Walk will be on April 17th from 9:00 to 12:00. The International Festival will be the same day. The Dogwood Festival will be held on April 24th at 10: a.m., the same location as last year. The trailer would be set up on Friday. Field Day will be June 26th and 27th, and is going to be at the same location as last year. Richard, KG4SNE, says that he needs a cook. The Tour De-Cure bicycle tour will go from Campbell University, Buies Creek, NC to Wilmington, NC on May 1st and 2nd. The Boy Scout Camporee will be on Saturday, May 1st.

The next ARES meeting for areas #1, #2, and #3 will be in Columbia on May 8th. The program will be Ron Knapp with ICS training.

Repeater money needed is \$900. per year, and donations are needed. About \$20. per person would help take care of this. Checks should be made out to Pitt County Repeater Association.

PROGRAM: Tonight's program was all about batteries by Vern Wenger from the new Batteries Plus which is located on Greenville Blvd. next to MacAllister's Restaurant. Vern had a power point presentation which showed all the different types of batteries.

It seems that his company can handle any battery needs of ham radio.

ADJOURNMENT: With no other business, the meeting adjourned about 9:15 p.m.

Respectively submitted,

Taylor Millar, W4WTM

Meet the Members, Tom & Sandy McLaughlin, KE4NQP, KI4CRC

(Continued from page 1)
the antenna. Sandy operates 2 and 440 and Tom of course operates those bands and 75 and 40 meter SSB and a little HF CW.

As stated before, Tom and Sandy are very active in BARC activities including Field Day, Special Olympics, selling raffle tickets and attending meetings. Also, Tom has helped with the BARC Technician class and presented a program at a BARC meeting. They are both involved in the ARES in Greene County. Tom has completed ARRL

online courses in Antenna Modeling, Emergency Training EC-001, Emergency Training EC-002 and is now about to finish Emergency Training EC-003.

Tom attended Davis Elkins College and then West Virginia University in Electrical Engineering. Sandy attended college for 2 years.

Tom has been an Engineer for A. W. Chesterton, Mau Sherwood Supply, Akron Controller and Motor, McGraw Edison and Goshen Rubber Company. He is now self employed at Accutek, Inc. and farms.

Sandy is owner of Greene Acres Ceramics and she has done and taught ceramics for over 30 years in North Carolina. She owned Sandel Ceramics in Ohio for 10 years. She has taught ceramics at Robertson Center in Tarboro for senior citizens and children for the past 15 years. She now works with Tom at Accutek, Inc. She also operates Greene Acres Angus Farm and Equipment Sales.

Tom and Sandy's family are daughter Tammy (married to Wayne Jones), son Ralph, son Jeff, KI4DCQ,

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Pitt County Repeater Association (PCRA) News

Hello fellow hams. Since the passing of Wayne Ross WD4JPQ there have been questions regarding the repeaters in which he maintained. I will try to answer most of the questions that have been brought to my attention. First we will keep the call, WD4JPQ, on the 145.35 repeater. Lynn Ross, KE4JZV, has given us permission to use Wayne's call as a club call for the Pitt County Repeater Association. The PCRA now covers all the repeaters at the Channel Nine tower site in Greenville. They are as follows; 145.350, 147.090, and 444.800. All repeaters on the system have a PL tone of 131.8. The new PCRA will be composed of a board of trustees that will maintain the site. The board members are: Bernie Nobles, WA4MOK, Bill Dawson, WA4SLC, Mike Langley, KD4MTT, Macon Dail, WB4PMQ, and myself John Johnson, KE4TZN.

The repeaters each have their own trustee and the job of the board is to maintain the site of all three repeaters on the Channel Nine tower in Greenville. The board is also in charge of allocating funds to help maintain the site. This is a great expense. Recently we had to renew an insurance policy that cost almost a thousand dollars per year. Any donations that are made to the association will support all three repeaters, and we will continue to give updates to inform fellow hams about our progress.

Last is the question of where to send donations. Send donations to:

PCRA
1401 E. Wright Rd.
Greenville, NC 27858

We would like to thank all those that have supported us and those that will support us in the future.

If anyone has questions, they can call my cell (252)-327-3091.

John Johnson, KE4TZN

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:

Yaesu FT-840 HF transceiver (10-160 m). Great condition, no problems that I can tell, always covered, original manual, original box, original hand mic, 500 Hz CW filter installed. No FM board. It's been a great starter radio for me (WAS, WAC on a dipole). Have used it for contesting, RTTY, and PSK. Selling because I'm going to upgrade. \$350. Dave LeMoine, KV4CN 353-8523

For Sale:

Icom IC-745 Price \$400 negotiable. 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.

Bad email addresses

The following email addresses bounced when I sent out notices that *Ham Chatter* was online. **KF4VHH, KD4NHZ, KI4DLN, KD4MTR.** There may be others!

If members want to receive notifications of the newsletter when it is published on the Internet and other BARC breaking news or notices, please keep your email address up to date with me. - *W4YDY*

Meet the members

(Continued from page 8)

daughter-in-law Rose, KI4DED, son Bruce, KC8GVX, (SK) and Tom's mother, Eunice of West Virginia

Sandy put it best. "I am very proud to be involved (in Amateur Radio) and I think everyone should give it a try. It can be very rewarding." I agree with her one hundred percent. - *W4YDY*

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

NC ARES Internet

<http://www.ncarrl.org/ares/>

BARC

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 11	Regular Meeting	Jul 27	Board Meeting
May 25	Board Meeting	Jul 31	Ham Chatter Deadline
May 29-30.....	CQ WW CW WPX Contest	Aug 10	Regular Meeting
May 29	Ham Chatter Deadline	Aug 20	VE Session
Jun 5	Winston-Salem Hamfest	Aug 31	Board Meeting
Jun 8	Regular Meeting	Sep 2	Ham Chatter Deadline
Jun 18	VE Session	Sep 4-5.....	Shelby Hamfest
Jun 26-27	ARRL Field Day	Sep 14	Regular Meeting
Jun 29	Board Meeting	Sep 25-26.....	CQ WW RTTY Contest
Jul 3	Ham Chatter Deadline	Sep 28	Board Meeting
Jul 10-11.....	IARU HF World Championship	Oct 2	Ham Chatter Deadline
Jul 13	Regular Meeting		
Jul 17	Cary Hamfest		

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



May 2004
Next Meeting
May 11

To:



PO Box 8387
Greenville, NC 27835

Ham Chatter