

Ham Chatter



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Meet the Member, John Johnson, KE4TZN

John Johnson spent most of his childhood in Edenton and he has lived in Emporia VA, Ahoskie, and Roanoke Rapids. He was first introduced to ham radio by a friend of his grandfather, Ralph Atkinson, WB4ZNB. He moved to Greenville with his father after his parents divorce.

He finished high school at D. H. Conley and attended Pitt Community College. It was about this time that he met Alex Macklin, KC4PHJ, and Gary Gasperini, AF4XV, and they reintroduced him to the hobby. He got his license, KE4TZN, in 1994 and shortly afterwards, he was hired at Radio Shack because of his interest in Amateur Radio. John later went on to managing Radio Shack stores in other areas of eastern North Carolina before returning home to Greenville in 1999. He has worked for Suncom for the past four years and lives in Greenville with his wife Jessica and son Will.

(Continued on page 4)



John Johnson, KE4TZN

2004 Field Day contacts



2004 was a huge improvement (74%) over 2003. Good Job to all. Here are the contacts. This is just

QSO numbers. Not points. No bonus points, etc. - Tnx KV4CN

2004

W4AMC - CW 734, SSB 393
NC4PC - (GOTA) CW 0, SSB 43
Total - CW 734, SSB 436 = 1170

June VE Session results

The June 18 VE session had several Radio Amateurs to complete new elements. Peter Stoffel, KI4CAI, Charlotte, upgraded to General and Jonathan Peterson, KG4SFS, Raleigh, and Pat Williams, KG4NSC, (BARC PR), Grimesland, passed element 3. Michael Tompkins, KF4KGZ, Greenville, passed the code test. There were three that completed requirements for the Technician license. Their new call signs were issued June 22, 2004. They are Barbara Cohea, KI4GCG, Vandermere, Richard Dusseau, KI4GCF, (also passed Element 3), Vandermere, and David Webb, KI4GCH, Bell Authur.

Tom Parsons, W4TEP, VE Liaison, was assisted by Murray Merner, K4MHM, Dave LeMoine, KV4CN, Gerry Clayton, K4IDD, Bob Moore, N4USB, and Dave Langley, W4YDY.

HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS CLASS See Page 2

Next Meeting July 13

The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club will have its next regular meeting on July 13 at 7:30 PM at VFW Post Home 7032 at 1108 Mumford Road in Greenville. The program will be Emergency Preparedness by Mike Langley, KD4MTT. All members, families and guests are invited to attend.

The next board meeting is set for July 27 at 7:30. The meeting is open to all members.

Pitt County Repeater Association News

John Johnson, KE4TZN

I would like to first begin to thank all of you that have sent a contribution to PCRA. Without your help we would not be able to support the three repeaters at our site.

As many of you know the 147.090 repeater is down. Macon and Bernie were able to go to the site and do some trouble shooting, several things were discovered. The repeater itself is operational. You can manually make the repeater transmit and a signal could be heard on the input when it was tested. The problem seems to be with the carrier operated relay on the repeater. This circuit is what keys the repeater when a signal is detected on the receive side of the repeater. Macon is currently repairing the problem. If the circuit is the only problem, then it will be back in working order soon.

(Continued on page 2)

President's Corner - Mike, KD4MTT

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone that participated in Field Day '04. What a wonderful demonstration of what can be done when people come together towards a common goal. And it was done in much less than opportune conditions.

On the surface the weather was not what we wanted, as the rain fell for several hours. But if we weigh the fact that the clouds also provided much cooler temperatures that we are accustomed to, the rain wasn't all bad. Saturday night was cool enough to cut off the fans and the bugs were manageable.

The bands stayed active for the night owls and several hearty souls were around when daylight broke. One kept the airways warm from start to finish, and has the sore fingers, and perhaps other parts, to prove it. When we started breaking down 1400 hours local time was near, unlike the past few years.

We operated multiple bands and multiple modes. Operators who do not normally operate on HF got the opportunity for new experiences. Others had time to hone their skills with a key, a microphone and a computer. Several experimental antennas were thoroughly tested, and our equipment got a workout.

From start to finish it was what Field Day is all about. I have already heard some comments about "next year." Thanks to everyone who gave of their time, their experience, their equipment and themselves. Once again BARC proved

that it "CAN DO." Take time to look at the pictures on the website and you will see the smiles, the activity and some uncomfortable sleep positions.

I can't close without commenting on the Saturday evening meal. You know I like to talk about food. Alright, who said "not just talk"? Thanks to the cooks who made the great food. Once again there was more than we could eat. Great vegetables. Great pasta. Great desserts. Who could ask for more!

Ham Radio is a family event. That was evident when I looked around the food tent and saw the smiling faces and great conversations. I look forward to many more Field Days and the opportunities they will provide to strengthen existing friendships and to make new ones. Yea, I'm already looking forward to next year!

Mike, KD4MTT

HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS CLASS

Reserve Thursday, July 29 from 7 to 9 pm for hurricane preparedness training. John Cole, Meteorologist with the National Weather Service will conduct the class. Location will be the auditorium in the Belk Building on the ECU campus. More information will be announced later. - *KV4CN*

Well Wishes

Thoughts and Prayers go out to the following:

Jeff Hardee, K4RJF

Gail Manning, wife of Mac Manning, KD4AFL

Bernice Turnage, WA4SLD



PCRN News

(Continued from page 1)

While at the site all of the antennas were checked and it seems that we have a high SWR on the receive antennas. Currently we are using the transmit antenna of 147.09 as a receive antenna for 145.35 until the problem can be resolved. I would appreciate the amateur community's participation in checking their mobile and hand held units for coverage capabilities and report to me with findings. I plan to reprogram the controller for both repeaters and repair a few things in the near future.



We have also been given a new link radio by Doug Blizzard, N4HAJ, in Kinston that will replace the broken equipment. I would again like to thank all of you that have donated to PCRA. To contribute, please mail donations to PCRA, 1401 E. Wright Rd., Greenville, NC 27858. If anybody has questions about the repeaters, please feel free to call me at 252-327-3091 and I will try to answer your questions to the best of my ability. Thanks again. *John Johnson, KE4TZN*

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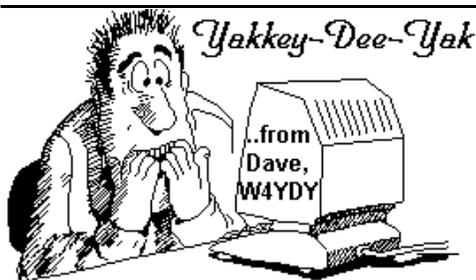


Happy Birthday

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

- 12 KG4CZW Bonnie Pulver !
- 13 K4SKI Charlie Wells
- 24 WA4MOK Bernie Nobles
- 29 W4YDY David Langley
- 31 AF4MY John Grant

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



BPL.. BPL.. BPL..

If BPL goes into effect everywhere, it will cause problems for **EVERY** Amateur Radio operator. Suppose you didn't have any interference at your location. You might hear a station calling CQ but he has BPL interference. You return his call but unless your signal was S9 plus, he would not be able to hear you. Some tests have shown that signals had to be greater than S9 to just make it through the noise.

Just because you may not be near overhead power lines, tests have shown interference one to one and a half miles away. There's probably not anyone that lives over a mile from overhead power lines. The signals would radiate just like a regular antenna because power lines are not shielded. Cable TV is a shielded cable and the CATV companies are required to keep them tight and not radiate outside the cable to cause interference. How are the power companies going to stop the power lines from radiating RF on an unshielded wire??

I'm not an expert on BPL by a long shot but it seems to me that if you were to put up an antenna that blankets the United States, you could run QSP and cover the world! Many running less than a watt have worked over 100 countries. What will the power companies be radiating when they pump RF in the range of 2 to 80 MHz into the largest antenna in the world? Looks to me as there has to be much more study to be sure there is no interference to the radio services.

There seems to be a lot of

(Continued on page 9)

FCC turning blind eye in BPL proceeding, ARRL charges

The ARRL says the FCC apparently has already made up its mind about broadband over power line (BPL) and "wants no bad news" about the technology. In reply comments filed June 22 on the FCC's Notice of Proposed Rule Making in ET Docket 03-47, the League called on the Commission to take "a fresh look" at BPL before enabling its deployment. Again asking the FCC to put the proceeding on hold for a year, the League recommended that the Commission in the meantime require BPL providers to conduct FCC-monitored interference testing with all stakeholders. The ARRL charged that while an overwhelming majority of comments oppose BPL due to interference concerns, the FCC continues to rely on what the League called "vacuous assurances that BPL would not cause harmful interference." Test data and a growing record of unresolved complaints indicate otherwise, the ARRL said.

"ARRL is of the view that this proceeding has been prejudged and will, in the end, be decided not on the technical issues that should control the outcome of this proceeding, but on the politics of the matter," the League commented. "Given the evidence on the Commission's table, it cannot now authorize BPL at the radiated emission levels proposed, and without substantial restrictions."

Among those restrictions, the League recommended keeping BPL altogether away from all Amateur Radio allocations, should the FCC decide to authorize BPL under its proposed rules. As an alternative, the FCC should guarantee that an interfering BPL system can be shut down immediately in the face of a valid complaint, "not after a BPL provider has taken months to discover that the interference cannot be resolved."

To date, the ARRL contended, the FCC has seemingly ignored the

League's BPL technical studies as well as the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) Phase 1 BPL study that clearly demonstrate BPL's interference potential. Five additional technical evaluations accompanied the ARRL's reply comments.

"The Commission is obligated by the Administrative Procedure Act to look for fire where it is shown a good deal of smoke," the League said. "Here there is far more than smoke in the record." Any decision in the BPL proceeding "must be supported by substantial evidence," the ARRL asserted.

The League said the results of both its studies and the NTIA's "are entirely consistent." Referring to the NTIA Phase 1 analysis, the ARRL said it's "quite reasonable to assume that the interference potential of BPL systems to fixed HF Amateur Radio stations is on the order of 460 meters (approximately 1509 feet) from the nearest BPL device." No proposals address BPL interference mitigation for mobile stations, the ARRL noted.

While commenting extensively on--and in some instances agreeing with--the NTIA's late-filed comments, however, the League said they depict an agency that must "balance dual and, in this case, conflicting roles" as the White House telecommunications policy advocate. The League questioned the NTIA's contention that BPL is a "win-win" situation and its deployment would lead to lower power line noise.

"Not so," the ARRL countered. "Licensed radio services operating in the sensitive HF environment should not have foisted upon them a substantial interference risk from unlicensed devices or systems whatsoever." The League said replacing one interference source with

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California ARES/RACES Team helps with Reagan funeral cortege

California's Ventura County ARES/RACES group assisted June 11 in the funeral activities for former President Ronald Reagan. Due to the large number of people wanting to view the Reagan funeral procession when the former president's body was returned to California for burial, law enforcement agencies asked the Amateur Radio volunteers to serve as additional eyes and ears along the 18-mile procession route.

"Operators were stationed on freeway overpasses, road intersections and other key locations on the route," said David Gilmore, AA6VH, who's Ventura County's ARES District Emergency Coordinator and RACES Radio Officer. He says some 50 radio amateurs participated.

"We in Ventura County have always felt a connection to President Reagan," Gilmore. The county is home to the Reagan Presidential Library as well as Point Mugu Naval Air Weapons Station, where Air Force One often landed when Reagan visited his ranch in neighboring Santa Barbara County. Gilmore said the ARES/RACES members "were grateful to be able to participate in this historic occasion, and to uniquely serve and honor President Reagan for the last time."

He also noted that Ventura County ARES/RACES members had undergone law enforcement background checks during the past year. "This was fortuitous, as the United States Secret Service--responsible for overall security--felt comfortable in having our participation," he said. The ARES/RACES team members worked side by side not only with the Secret Service but the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Federal Aviation Administration, the US Coast Guard, the California Highway Patrol and various local law enforcement agencies.

"At the end of the day we received compliments from a number of persons in various capacities to the effect that our reports of the position of the motorcade were invaluable," Gilmore concluded. One especially gratifying comment came from an FAA representative who complimented the team on its skill and professionalism. - *via ARRL Letter Online 6/18/04*

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*

Meet the Member

(Continued from page 1)

John said that he has a "hodgepodge of equipment" that includes hand-helds and mobiles (to many to name). His prize radio is a Yaesu FT 847. John enjoys working all modes of VHF and UHF, while experimenting with digital modes such as packet and APRS. He has enjoyed helping out with ARRL Field Day. John has helped with communications during hurricanes, floods and other emergencies.

John recently became trustee of the Greenville 145.35 MHz repeater as well as a member for the Pitt County Repeater Association board. He is an active BARC participant, including doing a program at one of the club meetings about Echo Link. - *W4YDY*

Next VE Session

The next Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club VE session will be held on **August 20**. 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.

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Bernie, WA4MOK, doing final assembly of TA-33 Jr.



N8FF, K4IDD, KF4ZVM and AF4MY start FD contesting.



Time to enjoy good food with the families.



Ken Graf, N8FF, and Hollis Thigpen, KC3X, keep the CW bands hot after the great food.



John Covington, W4CC, NC SCM, visits the BARC FD site late Saturday night.

BARC

2004

Field

Day

Utility cut short BPL trial that was target of Amateur complaints



Alliant Energy has called an early end to its broadband over power line (BPL) pilot project in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. The "evaluation system" went live March 30, and plans called for keeping it active until August or September. Alliant shut it down June 25. Ongoing, unresolved HF interference from the system to retired engineer Jim Spencer, WOSR, and other amateurs prompted the ARRL to file a complaint to the FCC on Spencer's behalf demanding it be shut down and the utility fined.

Alliant Energy's BPL Project Leader Dan Hinz says the ARRL complaint "certainly was a factor" in the utility's decision to pull the plug prematurely but "not the overriding factor." The main reason, he said, was that Alliant accomplished most of its objectives ahead of schedule. The primary purpose of the Cedar Rapids evaluation was to gain an understanding of BPL technology and what issues might be involved in a real-world deployment, Hinz explained. But, he added, regulatory uncertainty and other unspecified technical issues also factored into the choice to end the pilot early.

Hinz said Alliant is "mashing the data" to compile a written evaluation of the Cedar Rapids pilot, but the company has no plans at this point to move forward with BPL. Alliant did not partner with a broadband services provider, and it has no other BPL test systems in operation. The system used Amperion BPL equipment.

According to Spencer, five fixed Amateur Radio stations within proximity of the BPL evaluation system and two mobile stations formally reported BPL interference on HF. "The radio amateurs and Alliant Energy cooperated by sharing interference information," he said. "Alliant Energy turned the BPL evaluation system off twice to allow collection of extensive BPL frequency and signal level data--with and without BPL." He said Alliant and Amperion tried various "notching" schemes to rid amateur fre-

quencies of the BPL interference with only limited success.

The system included both overhead and underground BPL links to feed 2.4 GHz wireless "hot spots" for end user access. Hinz said the area's topography presented some challenges, especially with the wireless links. "I think in the end, we actually over-challenged ourselves with this specific pilot location," he said. And, despite "substantial progress" in mitigating interference, Alliant decided at this point that "it wasn't worth the extra effort" to resolve the thornier technical issues, Hinz added.

As for any broader implications, Hinz says he's always viewed BPL as a "strategic deployment technology," not one a company could roll out just anywhere and expect to be competitive with existing broadband services such as cable and DSL. "At least that's how we were looking at it," he said. "You have to find the right areas with the right topography with the right concentration of certain types of customers," he said.

"It's never been in my mind that BPL has to compete with the speeds of cable today," Hinz added. "It has to compete with the speeds of cable and the next best thing tomorrow as well, if it's going to be usable well into the future." He hinted that Alliant might want to take another look at BPL once the FCC has put BPL rules and regulations into place, and the technology has further evolved.

The ARRL's formal complaint to FCC Enforcement Bureau Chief David H. Solomon called on the Commission not only to close down Alliant's BPL field trial system but to fine the utility \$10,000 for violating the Communications Act of 1934 and FCC Part 15 rules. Commenting on the termination of the Cedar Rapids BPL trial, ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, pointed out that Alliant had tried for more than 12 weeks to fix the interference problem to a station 600 feet from its installation.

"In the end," Sumner said, "the interference was not eliminated except by shutting down the BPL system. Could the case against BPL deployment be any clearer?"

Spencer said he was happy with

Alliant's decision, and he was gracious in expressing appreciation to the utility for working with him. "And thanks also to the ARRL and the Cedar Rapids BPL Steering Committee for their knowledge and efforts in making a truly professional evaluation," he added.

Still outstanding are some chronic power line noise problems Spencer has experienced.

For additional information, visit the "Broadband Over Power Line (BPL) and Amateur Radio" page on the ARRL Web site <<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 7/2/04*

Actor Marlon Brando, KE6PZH/FO5GJ, SK



One of the best-known names in cinematic as well as Amateur Radio circles, actor Marlon Brando, died in Los Angeles July 1 at age 80. Known to hams worldwide as KE6PZH and FO5GJ, Brando is listed on the FCC database as Martin Brandeaux. He was on the air occasionally through the years with his FO5 call sign from his private island in French Polynesia.

In an interview with Larry King on CNN in 1994, Brando confirmed his continued interest in Amateur Radio. In response to a caller's question, he said ham radio provided him with the opportunity to just be himself. The iconoclastic actor was best known for his roles as Stanley Kowalski in "A Streetcar Named Desire," a dockworker in "On the Waterfront," and Vito Corleone in "The Godfather." He was nominated for eight Academy Awards and won twice. - *ARRL 7/2/04*



UPLC comment shows BPL campaign starting to pay off



ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, says a remark the United Power Line Council (UPLC) made recently about Amateur Radio shows that the League's BPL message is getting through. In its reply comments on the FCC's BPL Notice of Proposed Rule Making in ET Docket 04-37, the UPLC's Brett Kilbourne claimed that members of the BPL industry are the real experts on the technology, "not a misinformed set of armchair amateurs that still use vacuum tube transmitters." A subsequent UPLC press release repeated the swipe, drawing a storm of protest from the amateur community. Haynie said this week that he took comfort rather than offense at the intended affront.

"I thought that the comment was a good indicator that the work that the League has been doing on multiple fronts is beginning to pay off," Haynie said. The League's FCC filings, technical studies and information on BPL, he said, have made it "very embarrassing" for the BPL industry to keep insisting "that the emperor is wearing clothes," so it's resorted

to name calling instead.

Haynie said he remains puzzled that the BPL industry appears unwilling to support its claims that "the risk of interference from BPL is extraordinarily low, because it produces only minimal radio frequency energy at a few points in the system," as the UPLC's press release asserts. Any harmful interference that does occur, the UPLC claims, can be "mitigated" using a variety of techniques, "including frequency notching or frequency shifting."

"Just saying 'We said it's not going to interfere' is not going to cut it," he said. Haynie challenged the BPL industry to sponsor independent, professional engineering evaluations of the technology's interference risk. "Let's see what they've got."

Haynie said that while he found the UPLC's "armchair amateurs" remark amusing, its severe criticism of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) Phase 1 BPL report and comments in the proceeding raised his eyebrows a bit. In its press release, the UPLC said "NTIA's recommendations and ARRL's naysaying are misguided" and that the UPLC has

"forcefully replied" to interference concerns.

"For Mr. Kilbourne to come out and say they [NTIA] don't know what they're talking about, he might as well shoot himself in the foot," Haynie said, pointing out that the White House, which is promoting BPL, is putting a lot of weight on the NTIA's recommendations.

In its comments, the UPLC said the NTIA's approach was "fundamentally at odds with the Part 15 rules" and "unjustified" by BPL's interference potential.

In response to the criticism leveled from the amateur community, the UPLC declared its "support for Amateur Radio remains unabated," but expressed concern for "uninformed armchair quarterbacking by a small number of amateurs." The UPLC also said it has "sought to work with ARRL," citing its offer to help resolve "a complaint in Cedar Rapids, Iowa." Alliant Energy prematurely shut down its BPL pilot system in Cedar Rapids June 25. Interference complaints from amateurs were a factor in the utility's decision. - *Via ARRL Letter Online 7/2/04*

FCC says pending 40-Meter changes will enhance spectrum efficiency



The FCC says pending changes in the 40-meter amateur band as a result of World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03) will improve spectrum efficiency. The Commission's remark came in a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) in ET Docket 04-139, which seeks public comments on proposed rule changes to complete domestic implementation of various WRC-03 allocation decisions. The NPRM primarily affects Parts 2, 25 and 73 of the FCC's rules.

"We anticipate that administrations in Regions 1 and 3 will in the near future authorize phone emissions in the segment 7150-7200 kHz," the FCC pre-

dicted in the NPRM, "and we note the ARRL has requested that the [US] frequency segment for phone emissions be expanded to 7125-7300 kHz." The FCC said authorizing phone in the 7150-7200 kHz segment of the band would permit same-frequency US-to-DX contacts, resulting in increased spectrum efficiency. Amateurs in the Region 1 countries of Norway, Croatia and San Marino already have been granted access to 7100 to 7200 kHz on a secondary, non-interference basis.

Under the present regime, most amateur stations in Regions 1 and 3 use 7075-7100 kHz for phone. Since the US phone band is 7150 to 7300 kHz, this means most US-to-DX operation requires "split" operation. The band 7000-7300 kHz is allocated to the Amateur Service on a primary, exclusive basis in Region 2, but that is not the case in much of the rest of the world.

Effective next January 1, WRC-03 allocated the band 7100-7200 kHz to the Amateur Service in Regions 1 and 3 on a co-primary basis with broadcasting. After March 29, 2009, 7100-7200 kHz will be allocated to the Amateur Service on an exclusive basis throughout the world, except in some Region 1 and Region 3 countries.

"As such, Amateur Service use of this 100 kilohertz will be on a de facto secondary basis in Regions 1 and 3 until the broadcasting service vacates the band 7100-7200 kHz at the conclusion of Schedule B in 2009," the FCC noted. "This means that amateur stations in Regions 1 and 3 will shortly be permitted to transmit in the band 7100-7200 kHz, if they can find a frequency that is not being used by an international broadcast station."

(Continued on page 9)

BARC Monthly Minutes - June 2004

BARC Monthly Meeting 06-08-2004

The meeting was called to order by Mike Langley, KD4MTT, Club President. He welcomed everyone as the sign-up book was passed around to the membership. Everyone introduced themselves with their name, call letters, and city.

TREASURER'S REPORT: John, K4KBB, reported that the raffle of the Holland Grill went very well. He also reported on all incoming and outgoing funds, and gave present funds on hand.

HEALTH AND WELFARE: Mike Langley, KD4MTT, told about meeting Joe Melton, WB4SLF. It was also mentioned that Jeff Hardee was back in the hospital, and that he needs visitors. He is in room S-309.

EQUIPMENT: No immediate equipment needs for the club were mentioned at his meeting.

PUBLICITY: It was reported that the Info Kits came in via Federal Express. All political officials have been notified

about Field Day. Also plans were made to get on TV to announce Field Day to the public.

ARES: Bernie Nobles, WA4MOK, told about a bioterrorism drill to be held in Onslow County, and also about the School of Medicine disaster meeting. Mike Langley also mentioned Mars groups having drills. Army is having drills with optic cable cuts in different areas from Atlanta to Durham. He said lots of drills will be taking place.

HAM CHATTER: Dave Langley, W4YDY, reported that new advertisers will be supporting the Ham Chatter. He also asked for everyone to verify their correct e-mail address. Monthly notices are being e-mailed to all members about the new newsletter. If you are not getting this notice each month, then you need to send Dave your correct e-mail address.

VE SESSIONS: Tom Parsons, W4TEP, announced that the next VE Session will be held on June 18th at St. Peters School on 5th Street.

FIELD DAY PROGRAM: Dan introduced the program (Field Day), and turned the program over to Richard, KG4SNE. Richard told about the setup of the tents, antennas, etc.

He also told about the food. Chickens will come from Parker's Barbeque, and everyone should bring a covered dish, desserts, etc. We are to meet at the site Friday night at 6:30 to put up the tents. Dave LeMoine will handle setting up the radios, computers, for CW and voice. We will transmit from 2:00 p.m. on Saturday until noon on Sunday. Pat Williams and Richard talked about TV appearances. Mentioned also was fuel for the 5K club generator. The Saturday evening dinner will be at 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectively submitted,

Taylor Millar, W4WTM

BARC Board Minutes - June 2004

**BARC Board Meeting Minutes
06-29-2004**

Marks Marine, Hwy #33 Grimesland, NC

The meeting was called to order by Mike Langley, KD4MTT, Club President. He mentioned the upcoming Cary Swap-fest to be held on July 17th. He also welcomed everyone, and asked for reports from board members.

SECRETARY: Taylor Millar, W4WTM, commented on the excellent TV coverage of Field Day. This should tell the story of Ham Radio in a big way to the public.

TREASURER'S REPORT: John McCoy, K4KBB, reported incoming funds from ad money, sales of club patches, etc. He also announced new members recently joining the club. Expenses for Field Day were covered. It was mentioned that the food and desserts were very good. John also mentioned contacting members who have not attended recently.

HAM CHATTER & WEB PAGE: Dave Langley, W4YDY, reported that the

e-mail list was up to date, and the new roster is on line now with 95 members. It was also mentioned how strong our club is presently with this many members. Dave also reported that the pictures of Field Day were on line with one photo of a very tired Ham Radio Operator. (KS4YF)

PUBLICITY: Pat Williams, KG4NSC, reported inviting TV news people to Field Day, and to visit our club. Mike Langley also mentioned his conversation with Vester Flanagan with WNCT-TV, and how interested he seemed to be with Ham Radio especially after he made a contact.

HEALTH & WELFARE: Byron Highland, K4BMH, reported on several silent keys who were not members or active hams. It was reported that Jeff Hardee is now home from the hospital, and is better, but still having some problems.

NEW BUSINESS: Dave LeMoine, KV4CN, told about a special hurricane meeting on July 29th from 7:00 to 9:00 at the Belk Building. Our next club meeting will be preparedness, and led by Mike Langley. Several equipment needs were

mentioned such as filters, power pole connectors, patch cables, patch boxes, crimpers, etc.

Supporting our local repeater fund was mentioned. Repeater repairs are presently underway.

FIELD DAY RECAP: Dave LeMoine reported 1170 total contacts. CW contacts were 734, and Side Band contacts were 436. Filters for next year was discussed due to bleed over from other radios operating. Separate antennas was also another idea mentioned. It was reported that Field Day went real well.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business, meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectively submitted

Taylor Millar, W4WTM

Secretary

**Finally! A book for me!
Ham Radio for Dummies should
be at your local book stores and
on the internet now. - W4YDY**

FCC turning blind eye

(Continued from page 3)

another in the same bands is "not in any way beneficial."

The ARRL also faulted the FCC for neglecting to acknowledge or respond to a mounting number of interference complaints, most from amateur licensees living in BPL field trials areas. "The Commission has, as of this writing, adjudicated not a single one and has ignored repeated requests from licensed radio amateurs for even a confirmation of receipt of their complaints!" the ARRL emphasized. The League also expressed little confidence in utilities that have failed to resolve power line noise complaints to do any better with BPL complaints.

Earlier this month, the ARRL filed a well-documented and supported complaint on behalf of Jim Spencer, WOSR, in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. The League suggested such BPL complaints deserved careful analysis, but not the Commission's cold shoulder.

"What ARRL is unwilling to tolerate is the continuation of the Commission's sweeping of these complaints 'under the rug,' which is exactly what has happened in this proceeding," the League commented. The Commission must put its zeal over BPL aside and "take a fair look at them before any action is taken in this proceeding."

"The Commission has not proposed any rules which would predictably and reliably protect HF and low-band VHF radio systems from interference," ARRL concluded. "The interference resolution mechanisms that are adopted should be real, rather than merely illusory." - via *ARRL Letter Online* 6/25/04

Yakkey-Dee-Yak

(Continued from page 3)

money thrown at BPL to try and ram through the program. I understand that wireless broadband systems are coming online and I haven't heard any complaints about those. It should have the same coverage of BPL and probably be cheaper. Although the power lines are up, there would have to be a lot of equipment installed every mile to get the signals through the power lines. For more BPL information, go to the ARRL web site at <<http://www.arrl.org/bpl>>. - W4YDY

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, MFJ power supply, MFJ tuner, Yaesu speaker with limiters, Vertical antenna, dipole antennas and coax cables. Asking \$600 or will trade for small boat. Equipment is in mint condition in original boxes: rarely used. Robert C. Forbes, KC4AGU, PO Box 16, Macclesfield, NC 27852. Ph: (252) 827-5175.

For Sale: Old but working TS-520 & FT-101. Sell or trade for middle aged computer stuff. David Gaytko, WD4KPD, 252-946-6393

For Sale: Icom IC-745 Price \$400 negotiable. Bill Dawson, WA4SLC, 946-4760 or dawsonw@mail.ecu.edu.

For Sale: Kenwood 520 HF transceiver. \$200. Walt Verdick, KA4WFS, 252-758-2809.

Pending 40-Meter changes

(Continued from page 7)

The FCC said it doesn't think it needs to update its Part 97 Amateur Service rules until administrations in Regions 1 and 3 implement changes to allow amateurs to transmit in the 7100-7200 kHz segment.

"As a practical matter, we do not believe that the Amateur Service can make use of the band 7100-7200 kHz in Regions 1 and 3 in advance of HF broadcasting stations vacating the band because of the great power disparity between amateur stations and international broadcast stations," the FCC concluded. - via *ARRL Letter Online* 6/18/04

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

Jul 10-11.....	IARU HF World Championship	Oct 12.....	Regular Meeting
Jul 13.....	Regular Meeting	Oct 15.....	VE Session
Jul 17.....	Cary Hamfest	Oct 26.....	Board Meeting
Jul 27.....	Board Meeting	Oct 30-31.....	CQ WW SSB DX Contest
Jul 31.....	Ham Chatter Deadline	Oct 29.....	Ham Chatter Deadline
Aug 10.....	Regular Meeting	Nov 6-7.....	ARRL CW Sweepstakes
Aug 20.....	VE Session	Nov 9.....	Regular Meeting
Aug 31.....	Board Meeting	Nov 21?.....	Benson Hamfest
Sep 1.....	Ham Chatter Deadline	Nov 20-21.....	ARRL SSB Sweepstakes
Sep 4-5.....	Shelby Hamfest	Nov 27-28.....	CQ WW CW DX Contest
Sep 14.....	Regular Meeting	Nov 30.....	Board Meeting
Sep 25-26.....	CQ WW RTTY Contest		
Sep 28.....	Board Meeting		
Oct 2.....	Ham Chatter Deadline		

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



July 2004
Next Meeting
July 13

To:



PO Box 8387
Greenville, NC 27835

Ham Chatter