

Ham Chatter



Volume 38 Issue 8

An Official BARC, W4AMC, Publication

August 2004

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ARRL Seeks Clarification of FCC Response to BPL Interference Complaint

NEWINGTON, CT, Jul 23, 2004--The ARRL wants the FCC to further explain its recent response to a North Carolina amateur's complaint of BPL interference. FCC Office of Engineering and Technology (OET) Deputy Chief Bruce A. Franca replied July 22 to an April 27 BPL interference complaint from Thomas A. Brown, N4TAB, of Wake Forest. Brown had complained of BPL interference to his amateur HF mobile station emanating from a Progress Energy Corp (PEC) BPL field trial in the Raleigh area. In his letter, copied to ARRL, Franca said an on-site investigation had concluded that PEC's BPL trial "is in compliance" with FCC rules and that the company's ham band notching

and measurements taken by the FCC . . . established the absence of harmful interference to licensed stations," Sumner responded July 22. He said the League would like the OET to make its test report available to the general public or at least to the League for technical review and comment. The ARRL also wants to know what steps PEC took between April 27 and June 28--when the FCC began its testing--to address interference complaints from Brown and several other radio amateurs.

The FCC defines as "harmful" any interference that "seriously degrades, obstructs or repeatedly interrupts a radio-communication service operating in accordance with the Radio Regulations."

According to Franca, FCC personnel "undertook extensive testing and measurements" of the PEC BPL system between June 28 and July 2. The complainant--Brown--says the FCC delegation never contacted him while it was in North Carolina. Franca says FCC measurements indicated notch depths averaging 24 dB below Part 15 emission limits, which he characterized as "sufficient to eliminate any signals that would be deemed capable of causing harmful interference, including interference to amateur operations."

Franca maintained that "in no instances" were signal levels high enough to "cause serious degradation, obstruction, or repeated interruption" of amateur mobile or fixed communications. He conceded, however, that notching on 10 meters was somewhat less effective at the

Next Meeting August 10

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 all about Amateur Radio Satellites by Dave LeMoine, KV4CN. All members, families and guests are invited to attend.

The next board meeting is set for August 31 at 7:30. The meeting is open to all members.

Breaking News

Bernie Nobles, WA4MOK, went to the hospital Sunday morning and returned home Tuesday. Below are excerpts from two emails that I received on Monday, August 2. - W4YDY

From Doug Ferris, K4ROK....

Bernie Nobles is currently in Pitt County Memorial Hospital after suffering what appears to have been a minor stroke Saturday night. He is presently experiencing numbness in his right arm and side. CAT scan results from yesterday show no evidence of stroke but many times do not until much later. Please keep Bernie and Phyllis in your thoughts. As can be expected from Bernie his biggest concern at this point is that he is not available to participate in the impending tropical weather activities from TS Alex. - Doug, K4ROK

From Paul Fletcher, KS4YF....

I just left Bernie's room (PCMH S235) where he is resting comfortably,



Progress Energy has been operating its "Phase II" trial in three neighborhoods south of Raleigh since early January. [Gary Pearce, KN4AQ, Photo]

efforts "are effective" to avoid the potential for harmful interference. ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, however, cited evidence to the contrary.

"It is not at all clear that the tests

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President's Corner

First, thanks to Dave for allowing me to send in this column past the last minute. If he hadn't, all you would see her is "This is where Mike's message should be".

Last month our club program was "Preparedness" and on the 29th John Cole from NWS Newport presented a program on "Hurricane Prep" at the Belk Building. Currently the Hurricane Center is monitoring Tropical Depression Number 1, expecting that it might become a tropical storm.

NOAA is predicting an active hurricane season as is Dr. Gray, considered by many to be the leading source of accurate predictions. Dr Gray's prediction is 14 named storms, 8 hurricanes, 3 of which will be severe.

Our time to prepare is growing short, and each of has much to do. No matter how well we THINK we are prepared, if you look closely you will find something that is undone. Don't look back during an event and wish that you had taken the time to prepare.

On a lighter note, the nominating committee will be searching for volunteers to become club officers. Please consider serving on the board and lending your guidance to the club. It is a great experience and only requires a minimum amount of time each month.

I look forward to seeing each of you at the August 10th meeting. Dave LeMoine will present a program on satellite operation.

73's, Mike, KD4MTT



Happy Birthday

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

- 14 KG4PZQ Scott LeMoine
- 17 W4WTM Taylor Millar
- 19 KS4YF Paul Fletcher
- 20 KV4CN Dave LeMoine
- 25 KE4NQP Tom McLaughlin
- 30 KE4LQQ Chester Robins

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

Why LSB below 9 MHz & USB above

NOTICE

This subject is highly controversial. Many agree with the synopsis below - others disagree- take it for what is worth.

You have to see the circuitry for early SSB transceivers to appreciate this - but the easy explanation is -- in the early days of SSB design, one of the common SSB generating schemes used a 9 MHz carrier oscillator/IF. Anything below that freq was inverted (LSB) compared to those freqs above it (USB). So there was no USB/LSB switch, it automatically went to LSB for frequencies below 9MHz and vice versa. The protocol has stayed with us to this very day. But you can operate USB at 7 MHz and below if you want and vice versa. Few do (or should) as it is a gentlemen's agreement (not an FCC rule). - via *ac6v.com*

Editors note: There are other opinions on the AC6V web site.

Bernie, WA4MOK, in hospital

(Continued from page 1)

constantly monitoring any developments of TS Alex - while Phyllis is standing by and even Barbara Dail were visiting. Ron Knapp had checked in earlier by phone. Bernie is waiting his turn for MRI right now, but my \$0.02 is that his blood press was elevated and following a more than full day of those chores that we save for the weekend over-clocked his computer and a few breakers popped. The docs call it TIA - for transient ischemic attack - or in his case his right side went all tingly when the feeling began to come back. Keep your fingers crossed that this will be the easy route back for Bernie. He doesn't look very happy in the "Pitt Co Hilton", - besides the sign on his door - says - NO RADIOS - and this has to cramp his style! - Paul, KS4YF

Well Wishes

Thoughts and Prayers go out to the following:

- Bernie Nobles**, WA4MOK
- Jeff Hardee**, K4RJF
- Gail Manning**, wife of Mac Manning, KD4AFL
- Bernice Turnage**, WA4SLD



Spoofing generates new round of spurious arrl.net e-mail messages

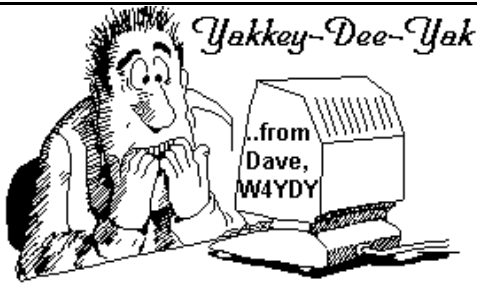
(Jul 27, 2004) -- Recent e-mail messages purporting to be from "noreply@arrl.net," the "ARRL.net Support Team" or some similar variation are not from the ARRL. These messages are the result of a recent variant of a virus permeating the Internet. ARRL has heard from members who have received e-mails alleging that their ARRL E-Mail Forwarding Service (@arrl.net) address has been used to send out spam and urging them to open an attachment to help resolve the situation. Opening the attachment will infect the recipient's computer. Outside of routine correspondence, the ARRL only sends e-mail to members who request mailings, such as WIAW bulletins and The ARRL Letter, and none of these are sent via the ARRL E-Mail Forwarding Service. As a defense against these kinds of viruses, we recommend installing virus protection software on all personal computers and updating it on a regular basis. Via *ARRL Letter Online*



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ARRL Board okays volunteer grassroots lobbying effort

Although it seems to be early, a nominating committee will soon be looking for new candidates to lead the Brightleaf ARC in 2005. The nominating committee will be announced at the August meeting and if you can serve the club, please let one of the members of the committee know. I'm sure they would like to have several candidates for each position.

In recent years, several of the officers had recently joined the Amateur Radio fraternity and they have done an outstanding job. Some had been licensed and a club member for less than a year, so if you fall in that category, consider running for one of the positions. Several of the present officers are not eligible to run again because of the two year limitation as stated in the BARC constitution. These positions will have to be filled with new candidates. Step up and help with the club. You will be rewarded by the extra enjoyment of participation.

In case you haven't been to a hamfest lately, there are still several coming up this year. The biggest one in North Carolina is coming up on Labor Day weekend in Shelby. There will be acres of flea market vendors and many dealers. You can usually find anything you may need.

Also other hamfest in the area will be the Virginia Beach Hamfest in September, Maysville in October and Benson in November. For exact dates, see the BARC calendar on the last page. Hope to get to some of them and see you there. - W4YDY

The ARRL Board of Directors has formalized a grassroots congressional lobbying program with an initial focus on BPL. Acting July 16 during its second meeting of 2004 in Windsor, Connecticut, the Board acknowledged the need to "immediately begin a BPL grassroots lobbying campaign." Hudson Division Director Frank Fallon, N2FF, who headed the Ad Hoc Committee on Grassroots Lobbying, sees the creation of a national "political machine" as a practical way to protect Amateur Radio spectrum.

"We're really, in essence, changing the culture of how we operate," Fallon said after the meeting. "We're going to use our members as constituents to talk to key legislators." While the campaign will zero in on BPL in the near term, it eventually could expand to support bills dealing with spectrum protection and with and deed covenants, conditions and restrictions (CC&Rs) and their impact on amateur antennas.

"It can be more effective for two or three constituents to walk into a lawmaker's office to pitch their cause," Fallon said. Such contacts, he pointed out, also can pave the way for subsequent meetings between League officials and members of Congress or their staff members.

To establish a coordinating structure, the Board created the positions of Division Congressional Action Chair, Congressional Action Coordinator and Congressional Action Assistant. The Board authorized the League's 15 division directors to appoint qualified volunteers to these positions.

Under the plan the Board adopted, the Division Congressional Action Chair, one in each ARRL division, would be a cabinet-level volunteer with some experience in lobbying activities. There would be at least one Congress-

sional Action Coordinator in each state, ideally selected in consultation with section managers. These volunteers also would be members of the director's cabinet. Working with the director, the Congressional Action Coordinator will designate and develop a number of Congressional Action Assistants to "accomplish the mission of getting the ARRL message to legislators," the ad hoc committee's report explained.

Fallon said the grassroots lobbying effort will fold into a comprehensive broadband over power line strategy, which the Board discussed at length but did not make public. The Board expressed the hope that the lobbying effort could be up and running by fall.

In other business, the Board:

- * approved a system to automatically recognize long-term League membership and to express appreciation of that support through a system of awards.
- * designated the next Dayton Hamvention as ARRL National Convention 2005. Hamvention will take place May 20-22 at Hara Arena near Dayton, Ohio.
- * directed the filing of an application with the FCC for an experimental license authorizing low-frequency operation for specified Amateur Radio stations.
- * directed the filing of a petition with the FCC to permit security of data for computer-to-computer communications on domestic transmissions above 50 MHz.
- * established as policy that ARES groups and any group using the ARES logo shall formally acknowledge ARES as an ARRL program, including in their bylaws or other organizational documents, and agree to abide by all rules and guidelines the League establishes. Since both ARES and Amateur Radio Emergency Service are registered ARRL service marks, ARES groups are to utilize the R symbol

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ARRL Board okays volunteer grassroots lobbying effort

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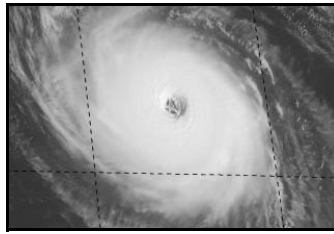
in any printed or electronic media and note that the logo is used by permission. All ARES records, membership rosters and other data pertaining to the ARES program, wherever located, are the property of the ARRL.

* resolved to have President Haynie appoint a study committee to recommend effective means of promoting "constructive relations and open lines of communication" between the League and the Amateur Radio industry. The committee will solicit input from the Industry Advisory Council and report to the Board at its January 2005 meeting.

* recognized and thanked ARRL Chief Operating Officer Mark Wilson, K1RO, for his longstanding service and dedication to the League and wished him well in his future endeavors. Wilson has announced that he'll be leaving ARRL in September to move to New Hampshire. He's been a member of the ARRL Headquarters staff for 24 years.

The official minutes of the July 2004 meeting of the ARRL Board of Directors are available on the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/announce/board-0407/>>. Via ARRL Letter Online

Hurricane class a success



Another active hurricane season. That was one of the key points in the Hurricane Class last Thursday, July 29. Approximately 30 BARC members, ARES members, police, fire, EMS, and hospital personnel attended a hurricane class at ECU presented by John Cole, meteorologist at the NWS in Newport, NC. It was a great class with sections devoted to NWS hurricane products (NWS information), Hurricane Isabel, and predictions for 2004. We appreciate John driving up from Newport to conduct the class, and look forward to seeing him again as part of our continuing Skywarn educational activities. *Dave LeMoine, KV4CN*

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*

FCC Sets New Vanity Fee Start Date: August 6, 2004

The FCC has announced that the new Amateur Radio vanity call sign regulatory fee of \$20.80 for the 10-year license term will go into effect August 6. Applicants for amateur vanity call signs will continue to pay the \$16.30 fee per vanity call sign application received by FCC until the new fee goes into effect. The FCC says it expects to collect close to \$162,000 from 7800 Amateur Radio vanity call sign applicants during Fiscal Year 2004. See the FCC's annual Report and Order (Docket MD 04-73) on the Web at http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-04-146A1.doc for details on their assessment and collection of regulatory fees for FY2004. - Via ARRL Bulletin ARLB020, 7/7/04

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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ARRL Seeks Clarification of FCC Response to BPL Interference Complaint

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low end of the band and said the FCC would instruct PEC and its partner, Amperion, to widen its notch there.

Sumner noted that the Part 15 device operators "must eliminate all harmful interference, and therefore in some cases much achieve more--in certain cases, considerably more--than a 24 dB reduction in order to be in compliance." He also cited recent reports from amateurs in the area indicating that strong BPL interference continues in parts of the PEC trial zone.

"From consulting with the amateurs who have been and continue to receive harmful interference from the Progress Energy trials, we find that while the interference has been reduced (but not eliminated) in some parts of the amateur bands, it continues unabated in others,"



A pole-mounted BPL extractor in the Progress Energy Corp system. [Gary Pearce, KN4AQ, Photo]

Sumner told Franca. Amateurs in the Raleigh area on July 17 and again July 22 monitored a BPL signal "at full strength and causing harmful interference" from 14.290 to 14.350 MHz. "Harmful interference" also was reported in the first 100 kHz of 15 meters as well as on the

WWV/WWVH frequencies of 15.000 and 20.000 MHz and on several international broadcasting bands.

"Even in the notched bands," Sumner said, "the interference was still evident on ordinary amateur equipment." He said it's clear to ARRL that the system's Holland Church Road site--where the most recent amateur measurements were taken--is in violation of Part 15.

For his part, Brown--an engineer with considerable RF experience--said he was glad the FCC finally took some action but found some of Franca's assertions "very troubling." He told ARRL that his 14-page complaint cited interference "sufficient to mask a weak signal," although it did not register on his S meter. "SO is still microvolts of signal level," he pointed out. An active Amateur Radio Emergency Service District Emergency Coordinator, Brown said it's not unusual to have to copy similarly weak signals during an HF emergency net.

"This was an action on behalf of the FCC simply to show action," Brown asserted. "I suspect the principal reason for their coming down here was to say they've actually done something." He also worried that the FCC was attempting to define a standard of "acceptable interference" within the framework of what constitutes "harmful interference."

"If it interferes, it interferes," he maintained.

In his letter Sumner also requested that the FCC clarify some additional aspects of its testing and measurement, including specifics on tests at two fixed Amateur Radio station locations where Franca said the FCC observed "no BPL interference" on ham frequencies, and what kind of amateur equipment was used to "show little field strength or observable signal levels in the notched bands," as Franca reported.

"Until these points can be clarified," Sumner concluded, "we trust that the Commission will not permit its conclusion to be erroneously represented as having given the Progress Energy trials a 'clean bill of health.'" *via ARRL*

BARC Members earn awards

KV4CN First in Nebraska

Dave LeMoine, KV4CN, was recently surprised when he received his mail recently. He had a certificate from the Nebraska QSO party in which he participated. Dave won first place for North Carolina in the recent Nebraska QSO Party. Congratulations Dave.

W4YDY earns Master County Hunter Award (Bingo) #248

Dave Langley, W4YDY, completed the requirements for the Master County Hunter Award, also known as Bingo, and it was dated on 7/29/04, his birthday. This award is earned by working all 3077 counties with a holder of the USA-CA award or the first letter in the county is in the call of the station worked there. Also since no counties start with an "X", most calls with an "X" in it is good for Bingo.

Another BARC member, Hollis Thigpen, KC3X, finished Bingo # 68, in 1993, Bingo II # 6 in 2000 and Bingo III # 4 in 2003. That is just 3 of the dozen major County Hunting awards he has received working all counties 6 times. He is the real Master of county hunting!

EINSTEIN ON RADIO

"I am often asked how radio works. Well, you see, wire telegraphy is like a very long cat. You yank his tail in New York and he meows in Los Angeles. Do you understand this? Now, radio is exactly the same, except that there is no cat."

__Attributed to Albert Einstein *via www.ac6v.com*

Volunteer Examiner Coordinators discuss question pools, restructuring

The size, scope and comprehension level of Amateur Radio examination questions occupied much of the discussion as 11 of the nation's 14 Volunteer Examiner coordinators gathered this month in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. But those attending the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC) annual meeting July 23 reached no firm conclusions as they await FCC action on Amateur Radio restructuring. The FCC's Bill Cross, W3TN, told the VECs that the Commission--with help from some law school interns--is reviewing the approximately 6000 comments filed on 18 petitions addressing the Morse code as an exam element and Amateur Radio restructuring. Cross informed the VECs that a decision on restructuring or the Morse code issue is not imminent.

"He indicated that some time will be necessary to review all the comments to glean some consensus on the number of license classes, whether or not to retain Morse code as a licensing requirement for HF operation, the proposed auto-upgrading of certain license classes and what to call any new beginner's license," said ARRL VEC Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ.

FCC Special Counsel for Enforcement Riley Hollingsworth told the VECs he's "really aggravated" to still be dealing with enforcement issues resulting from several 1999 examination sessions in Yucaipa, California "where VEs apparently sold licenses." The situation occurred, Hollingsworth said, because "VEC management was asleep at the wheel."

"It was a failure of imagination--a failure to think on the part of the manager about what he was there for in the first place," said Hollingsworth--borrowing a phrase from the recent 9/11 Commission report. In the Yucaipa case, he said, several volunteer examiners signed off on 250 examinations in a 26-month period. Following a 2000 FCC audit into exam sessions in Puerto Rico, Hollingsworth said, the FCC recalled 100 applicants for retesting, and only one showed up. Although Hollingsworth did

not identify the VEC, both the Yucaipa and Puerto Rico cases involved the W5YI VEC, which referred the California exam session irregularities to the FCC after investigating on its own. In Puerto Rico, the W5YI VEC discontinued the services of all Puerto Rico VEs but those associated with the Arecibo Observatory Amateur Radio Club after irregularities came to light there.

"I can tell you that so far I have been a fan of the VEC program,"



Hollingsworth addressing National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC)

Hollingsworth said. "But if we have one more case of the magnitude of the Puerto Rico or Yucaipa cases, that's going to change fast." He pointed out that the FCC does not have to accept the services of any given VEC, and he said if any VECs are uncomfortable with taking responsibility for oversight, following up and random reviews of their test sessions, they can stop being VECs.

"You have an obligation to remain awake at the wheel, and the point is not how fast or easily you can do your job, but how well you can do it." He said today's applicants will determine the character of the Amateur Radio Service in the

future. "If your own VEs are running a license factory right in front of you, we are going to hold you responsible."

Hollingsworth concluded by saying that he expects the VECs to "add integrity to the process" and be vigilant to avoid future embarrassments and problems.

Filling in for Question Pool Committee Chairman Scotty Neustadter, W4WW, Jahnke reported on the past year's QPC activities, which included release of a new General class (Element 3) examination pool. Jahnke repeated a call for input to the Amateur Extra class (Element 4) syllabus, but he noted that any Element 4 review may be suspended if and when the FCC proceeds toward restructuring and establishment of a new beginner's license.

Chosen to serve on the Question Pool Committee were Larry Pollock, NB5X, of the W5YI VEC, Neustadter, Wiley and Jahnke. Wiley will chair the committee.

ARRL Amateur Radio Education and Technology Program (ETP) Coordinator Mark Spencer, WA8SME, wrapped up the conference with a presentation covering youth initiatives, instruction, motivating teachers and schools, and related ETP activities. He also displayed various project boards designed for classroom use. - via ARRL Letter Online 7/30/04



Broadband Provider Drops BPL in New York Trial Community



NEWINGTON, CT, Jul 28, 2004--The broadband provider that's been testing BPL in the Village of Penn Yan, New York, now reportedly will "move away" from that technology. The Western New York community of some 5000 residents has been considering various proposals with Data Ventures (DVI) to offer broadband service. The village reportedly would get 10 percent of the generated revenue. According to an article in today's edition of the Finger Lakes Times Online, DVI now is proposing to employ wireless mesh technology instead of BPL. ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, congratulated Penn Yan Mayor Douglas G. Marchionda Jr and DVI for going with wireless broadband instead of BPL.

"Not only will your citizens re-

ceive better service, but a serious radio spectrum pollution problem has been averted as well," Sumner said in a letter faxed to Marchionda and to DVI CEO Marc Burling. "We hope that other communities will be able to profit from your experience." Sumner raised the issue of interference complaints from the Penn Yan BPL trial with Marchionda last April.

The Finger Lakes Times report quotes Burling as saying that his company didn't feel BPL was "commercially deployable." He also cited issues with the BPL trial including security concerns and interference--which will not be an issue with the wireless system.

Penn Yan already has rejected two DVI proposals to bring high-speed Internet service to the community, the newspaper said. Village officials reportedly met again with DVI representatives this week. DVI is partnering with Nortel

to offer the wireless service.

The article quotes Marchionda as saying that the village didn't want to be involved with handling complaints or operating the broadband system. It just wants to rent space on village-owned utility poles and benefit from any revenue the system generates.

Penn Yan and DVI had been looking at a 10-year agreement, but the latest proposal calls for a two-year contract with provisions for an automatic two-year renewal.

In a March 23 article "In This Power Play, High-Wire Act Riles Ham-Radio Fans," Wall Street Journal reporter Ken Brown described a "firestorm" of protest from amateurs when Penn Yan approved the BPL test plan.

For more information on BPL, visit the "Broadband Over Power Line (BPL) and Amateur Radio" page on the ARRL Web site. *Via ARRL*

FCC affirms \$11,000 Fine for California amateur



The FCC has ordered Daniel Granda, KA6VHC, to pay an \$11,000 fine for alleged "willful and repeated" violations of the Communications Act of 1934 and Amateur Service (Part 97) rules. The Commission's July 9 Forfeiture Order followed a Notice of Apparent Liability (NAL) issued March 31. Granda did not respond to the NAL nor to earlier FCC correspondence, and the FCC said it was affirming the forfeiture based on the information it had before it.

"The noted violation involves Mr Granda's failure to respond to official Commission correspondence and causing intentional interference to Amateur Radio communications," the FCC Order said.

In its earlier NAL, the FCC asserted that on at least eight occasions, Granda, 58, "willfully and maliciously caused interference to other stations and conducted activity in an effort to obtain exclusive use" of a 1.25 meter repeater pair. The Whittier, California, licensee was the recipient of a December 2002 Warning

Notice from the FCC Enforcement Bureau alleging that he deliberately interfered with two repeaters, KD6ZLZ and WA6NJJ, and requiring him to provide a detailed plan to prevent interference. Granda failed to respond to that and to subsequent notices, the FCC said.

In late 2002, the FCC dismissed Granda's complaint against the KD6ZLZ and WA6NJJ repeaters. Granda had told the FCC that he'd been using the two frequencies "continuously for over 25 years." In January 2003, the FCC's Los Angeles Field Office issued a Warning Notice to Granda alleging that his station was transmitting improperly and causing interference to other stations. It ordered Granda to cease automatic control of his repeater.

Agents from the Los Angeles field office used direction-finding techniques to track interfering signals to Granda's residence and inspected his station, the FCC said. According to the NAL, Granda "orally admitted" that he had received the warning notices, and he told the FCC agents that he was "trying to prevent anyone from using 'his' frequency by retransmitting 147.49 MHz signals on

222.24/223.84 MHz to 'keep the channel occupied.'"

Last August, the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau set aside the renewal of Granda's Amateur Extra class license, which expired last November. His renewal application has reverted to "pending" status.

Granda has 30 days to pay the fine. If he fails to do so, the case could be referred to the US Department of Justice for collection. - *via ARRL Letter Online 7/16/04*

THE BOOTLEGGER

A bootlegger walks into a radio store and tells the salesman that he would like to buy the new HF rig over in the corner. The salesman says, "Sorry, we don't sell to bootleggers". He leaves, goes home, puts on a brown wig and sunglasses and goes back to the store and tells the salesman he wants to buy that new rig over in the corner. Sales guy says, "Sorry, we don't sell to bootleggers". Old boot asks, "How do you know I'm a bootlegger?" and the salesman replies, "Because that's not a rig, it's a microwave oven." - *via www.ac6v.com*

BARC Monthly Minutes - July 2004

BARC Monthly Meeting 07-13-2004

The meeting was called to order by Mike Langley, Club President. He welcomed everyone as the sign-up book was passed around to the membership.

The club meeting minutes published in the Ham Chatter were approved.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Taylor, W4WTM, reported that a WMD, (Weapons of Mass Destruction) unit from the Army was being based here in Greenville. They will be working out of our present Armory until their building is built later on.

TREASURER'S REPORT: John, K4KBB, reported that is was a break even month with very little activity. John reported the expenses and income for the month plus gave total balances on hand in the bank account. He announced that we have two new members. John Grant, AF4MY, from Kinston, and Merci Boushard, KC4TOI, were the new members.

HEALTH AND WELFARE: Byron, K4BMH, mentioned that Jeff Hardee was back in the hospital.

EQUIPMENT: Mike, KD4MTT, said that we are still trying to locate all of the club equipment. We are beginning to put together a list of equipment needs for the

club. After Field Day a few needs were mentioned. If anyone knows of needs, e-mail these to Mike for the Club to approve at the next meeting. The new power pole crimper was mentioned. A projector for the club was seen as very expensive, and was voted down. Murray, K4MHM, mentioned that he could borrow one if needed.

PUBLICITY: Pat, KG4NSC, reported getting information on the Ayden Collard Festival. We had good publicity with T. V. coverage during Field Day.

ARES: Bernie Nobles, WA4MOK, told about new changes coming for the Tarheel Emergency Net. Changes are coming by mid-August. Doug, K4ROK, asked everyone to sign up with ARES if not already a member. He said that they are now working on ARES identification badges for Pitt County. He also expressed the need for Ares Net control operators. Doug also mentioned for everyone to get the scripts, have short training sessions, and training for emergency situations. Paul, KS4YF, mentioned the Diabetes Walk that the Med School is organizing. The date for this in August will be announced later.

VE SESSIONS: The next VE Session will be held on August 20th at St. Peters School on 5th Street.

FIELD DAY WRAP-UP: Richard, KG4SNE, reported 3,656 total score not counting bonus points. Richard told about Field Day reports that he is sending in. He also thanked everyone for their participation in Field Day. The good food was especially mentioned. Richard mentioned having some classes on operation of club radios would be good for the future.

PROGRAM: Tonight's program by Mike Langley, KD4MTT, was Preparedness. He said we must be prepared for emergencies other than hurricanes. He said working together is very important. What should be done, when, why, and how. He talked a lot about family preparedness, and how to prepare at home. Have battery operated radios ready. Have the 72 hour kit, know when to evacuate, remember pets, and have contact with a family member. Mike told about all the items to have on hand in your kit.

He also mentioned the ARRL Course #1 was free on the internet.

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

Respectively submitted,

Taylor Millar, W4WTM

BARC Board Minutes - July 2004

BARC Board Meeting Minutes 07-27-04
Marks Marine, Hwy #33 Grimesland, NC

The meeting was called to order by Mike Langley, KD4MTT, Club President. He also welcomed everyone, and asked for reports from board members.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: The Secretary would like to report that the Emergency Preparedness program presented at the last meeting was very informative and very important to all of us. Thanks Mike for this information. I know this will help us prepare.

TREASURER'S REPORT: John McCoy, K4KBB, gave the balance of funds in the bank. He also reported on funds paid out plus recent income. John also mentioned for us to keep membership strong, and call members who miss a

meeting or two. Let them know that they are missed, he said. John also talked about supporting the Repeater Association and make donations in order to keep our repeaters in good shape. It was also mentioned to let New Members know how the Repeater Association works.

PUBLICITY: Pat Williams, KG4NSC, reported a upcoming TV appearance with Amanda Ross with WITN-TV at 5 P. M. On July 28th which will be advertising the upcoming Hurricane Preparedness meeting. Pat also passed out information on the Ayden Collard Festival. Also discussed was the costs of having a booth at this event. Also it was not known if we could put up an antenna. Pat also announced that he would have information at the next meeting about the Winterville Watermelon Festival.

HEALTH & WELFARE: It was reported that Jeff Hardee is now in the hospital in room 305 South. It was also announced that Rufus Keel, a past member who lives on Okracoke Island, was flown in to our hospital recently with heart problems.

NEW BUSINESS: Mike Langley talked about some needs for equipment that had been pointed out as needed. These items include a CW filter 250 hertz, power pole crimpers, headset adapters, storage cases, a tilt-over tower base, and a voice synthesizer. Mike mentioned having orange colored storage boxes for club radios, including head sets, etc. This would have our radios protected and ready to go at any time.

Mike told about a recent ARRL Board

(Continued on page 9)

Board Meeting Minutes

(Continued from page 8)

Meeting pointing out that anytime the registered ARRL logo or ARES logo is used that we must use the little (r) with a circle around it. We must show that these logos are owned by ARRL. It seems that ARRL is telling everyone that they totally own ARES.

The Hurricane Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 29th at the Belk Bldg.

A nominating committee is being appointed for upcoming club elections.

It was mentioned that possible future Elmer Sessions might include instructions on operating our club radios.

It was reported that some of the poles at VOA Site C need work. This might be a good Saturday project after a good brunch at Golden Corral. We could acquire their private room.

NEXT MEETING PROGRAM: Our next meeting program will be Satellite Communications by Dave LeMoine, KV4CN. This should be a good informative program especially for those of us lacking in this type of radio communication.

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

Respectively submitted

Taylor Millan, W4WTM
Secretary

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.

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

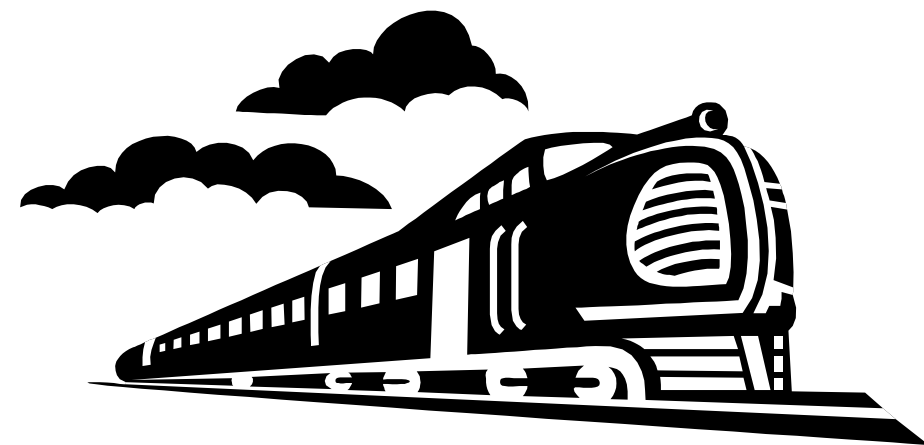
- ◆ Tar Heel Emergency Communications Net on 3923 kHz Nightly 1930.

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 Officers wanted for 2005!

It's that time of year again. A nominating committee is being appointed for the upcoming club elections. Several positions will need to be filled including Secretary and Treasurer. Volunteer for a position to help the club grow. Or you might get railroaded by that train!!!!!!!

BARC

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

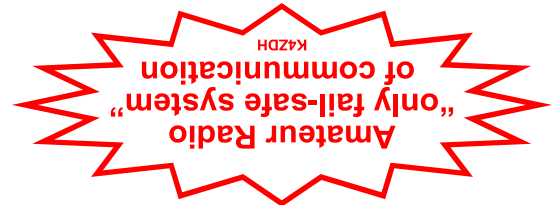
Aug 10	Regular Meeting	Oct 12.	Regular Meeting
Aug 20	VE Session	Oct 15.	VE Session
Aug 31	Board Meeting	Oct 26.	Board Meeting
Sep 1	<i>Ham Chatter Deadline</i>	Oct 30-31	CQ WW SSB DX Contest
Sep 4-5.	Shelby Hamfest	Oct 29.	<i>Ham Chatter Deadline</i>
Sep 14	Regular Meeting	Nov 6-7.	ARRL CW Sweepstakes
Sep 18-19.	VA Beach Hamfest	Nov 9	Regular Meeting
Sep 25-26.	CQ WW RTTY Contest	Nov 21.	Benson Hamfest
Sep 28	Board Meeting	Nov 20-21.	ARRL SSB Sweepstakes
Oct 2.	<i>Ham Chatter Deadline</i>	Nov 27-28.	CQ WW CW DX Contest
Oct 10.	Maysville Hamfest?	Nov 30	Board Meeting

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



August 2004
 Next Meeting
 August 10

To:



PO Box 8387
 Greenville, NC 27835

Ham Chatter