

# HAM CHATTER



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April 2016

Editor, Joe Jeansonne, WB4JOE

Email: hamchatter @ w4amc.com

## “Elmer” Inspiration, Elmer “Bud” Frohardt Jr, W9DY, SK

## Next Meeting Apr 12, 2016

The ham radio mentor who inspired the term “Elmer” — **Elmer P. “Bud” Frohardt Jr, W9DY** (ex-**W9GFF**), of Madison, Wisconsin — died on March 22. He was 93. A friend and co-worker of the late **Rod Newkirk, W9BRD** (later **VA3ZBB**), who edited QST’s “How’s DX?” column, **Frohardt** was the “Elmer” that **Newkirk** had in mind when he used the name in his March 1971 column, referring to someone who helped to mentor new Amateur Radio licensees and calling them “the unsung fathers of Amateur Radio.”

“Too frequently one hears a sad story in this little nutshell: ‘Oh, I almost got a ticket, too, but **Elmer, W9XYZ**, moved away and I kind of lost interest,’” **Newkirk** had written. “We need those Elmers. All the Elmers, including the ham who took the most time and trouble to give you a push toward your license, are the birds who keep this great game young and fresh.”

On **AC6V’s** “Origin of Ham Speak” web page, **John Becker, K9MM**, is quoted as saying, “Bud was very well known locally for his

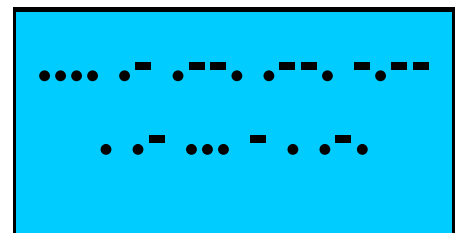
involvement with the RAMS (Radio Amateur Megacycle Society) radio club, and he was always helping newcomers to the hobby.”

An ARRL Life Member, **Frohardt**, who preferred to be called “Bud,” had worked as a communications technician for the Illinois State Police, retiring in 1986. Licensed in the 1930s, he was a veteran DXer, eventually working all 381 countries at that time from his former home in Chicago. When he moved into an antenna-restricted neighborhood in the 1990s, he enthusiastically began chasing DX from his car, racking up 326 entities while operating from the back seat. He also was active in the annual Illinois QSO Party, which he managed at one point.

“Am most proud of all the wonderful young people I have been able to interest over the years in science, radio, DX, CW, and electronics,” **Frohardt** wrote on his QRZ.com page. “Many of them have become excellent operators, engineers, scientists, doctors or business people.”

-via ARRL (<http://bit.ly/1TCfJCz>)

The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club will have its next meeting on Tuesday, April 12, at VFW Post Home 7032 on 1108 Mumford Road in Greenville. The program will be a video “**Highlights from NINE exciting adventures to the rarest-of-the rare DXCC entities!**” It shows what extreme radio amateurs will go through to operate the rare entities to help the DX community. Very entertaining. All members, families and guests are invited to attend.



### BARC Board Meeting

The next board meeting will be Tuesday, April 26 at 7:30 PM at the Offices of Monday & Monday, (CPA), Suite D, East Victoria Court. All members invited.

## Voice of America Antenna Farm in North Carolina Levelled

A field of 48 antenna towers that the Voice of America once used to broadcast around the world, were dropped by explosives on April 4.

The VOA had not used the towers, located in Beaufort County, North Carolina, for 10 years, although it still broadcasts news and information to Latin America, Cuba, the Caribbean and Africa from towers in a nearby county. According to news reports, it

took less than 1 minute to fell the towers, which were hauled away as scrap. They had been in place for 50 years.

Television station WITN said the VOA site has been sold to Beaufort County's North Carolina Wild Life Resources Commission.

See the towers go down in this WITN TV news report. <http://bit.ly/1q6HJIA>

## Next VE Session

The next Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club VE session will be held **Tuesday, April 19, 2016** at the VFW Post Home 7032 on 1108 Mumford Road and will start promptly at 6:30 PM. Email Steve Horne II, KB5B, VE Liaison at [ve @ w4amc.com](mailto:ve@w4amc.com). Walk-ins welcome. Please bring the following **required**:

- ◆ **Photo ID** (drivers license)
  - ◆ **Original** Amateur Radio License
  - ◆ **Copy** of Amateur Radio License
  - ◆ **Original** CSCE's
  - ◆ **Copy** of CSCE
  - ◆ Test fee is \$15.00 .
  - ◆ Proof of Tech Plus if before 3/21/87 and doing paper upgrade to General.
  - ◆ SS Number will be needed if you don't have an FRN number. \*
- \* **More info** at <http://www.w4amc.com/barcinfo.html#VE>.

## NC ARES Internet

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

**Pitt County ARES**  
EC needed!



## Happy Birthday

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

- 3 K4KBB John McCoy
- 16 KJ4DMV Geraldine Sanchez
- 18 WB4PMQ Macon Dail

*Additions or corrections to WB4JOE*

## Well Wishes

Thoughts and Prayers go out to the following:

**Charlie Wells, K4SKI**

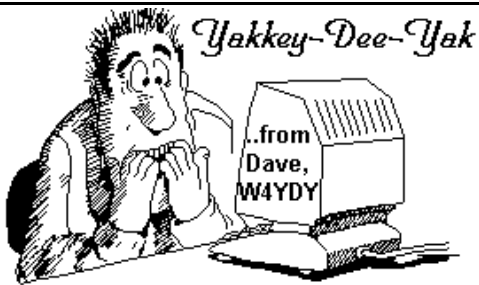
Please inform Gerry Clayton, K4IDD, [gclayton4 @ suddenlink.net](mailto:gclayton4@suddenlink.net) of any changes.



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### Update on new w4amc.com

**Mike Monteith, KM4OLT**, is working hard on the new BARC web site. It will be a while before it is finished because he is completely working on a new look and also some great additions. It will take a lot of time to transfer the pictures and reformat the other pages. **Mike** is testing a couple of forum formats that members will be able to register and pass along club announcements. Also they can start subjects asking for help, sell stuff and any other subject concerning BARC and Amateur Radio.

At present, I am still updating the web site and i inform **Mike** of any changes so he can make them on the new site. That way the new site will be ready to go with all the latest data. There is no time frame at this time when it will be completed because **Mike** has many hours of work writing and testing.

### BARC membership renewals

Thanks to everyone that renewed for 2016. There are 69 in the January roster. As of the first of April, over 90 percent have renewed. Thanks for your support of the club.

### Raleigh trip & RARSFest

I went up to Raleigh on Friday and spent the night at my daughter's, **WA4AKB**, Got there about noon and met **Murray, K4MHM**, setting up a youth station at the hamfest site. He took a break and we went out to lunch.

**Murray** told me about their successful classes teaching of all classes of Amateur Radio courses. He said they had

# Brightleaf 2016 Dues

Membership dues for BARC are due January 1. Those who have not paid their dues will not be listed on the roster and will be removed from the *Ham Chatter* mailing list starting in April. Membership dues are the same as they were in 2015 and are as follows:

**Regular Member** \$20.00  
**Family Member** \$2.00  
**Associate Member (Non-Licensed)** \$5.00  
**Honorary Member** \$0.00  
**New Hams: 18 and younger (1st year)** \$5.00  
**New Hams: 19 and older (1st year)** \$10.00

on class to start with about 40 students. They got another instructor and made 2 classes. One of the classes of about 20 were Boy Scouts, their leaders and some parents!

Saw several BARC members in Raleigh at the hamfest held on April 2. The Graham building looked to be over 90 percent full. There was a lull a few years ago but it's looking like the attendance of old. There sure was a lot of stuff for sale in the flea market area. The dealer area seemed to be doing a brisk business as usual. If you needed any parts, wire of any type, tubes or accessories, it was probably there. I saw some nice fairly nice equipment from the 1950s and 60s. There are still collectors looking for that type of equipment.

Also I saw a number of friends that I had not seen in a while. Shortly after noon time while I was at the

Please mail your dues, along with the member application form if there are any changes to: **Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 8387, Greenville, NC 27835.**

We are requesting that you send the application form in so that we can have your correct information on file. The form can be downloaded from <http://www.w4amc.com/application.pdf>.

If anyone has any questions concerning their membership status or their dues, please email Jeff Meyer, **K4DKW**, BARC Treasurer, at **jef-freymeyer55 @ gmail.com** (remove spaces in email address). **Thank you for your support and participation in BARC.**

**QCWA** booth resting my feet in one of their chairs, the PA announcer called out **W4YDY** to go to the announcers stand. When I got there a fellow from Lumberton that I had never met was waiting for me. It was **Jimmy, K4YFH**, who I have contacted over 200 times in 208 counties and 28 states and his brother from Fayetteville, **Richard, KA4TLC**, that I have also talked to a number of times. **Jimmy** said he saw where I had signed in on the **QCWA** member sheet.

Only problem on the trip, picked up a souvenir nail in my right front tire. It caused a slow leak but held up enough until after the hamfest. When to a Discount Tire store in Cary and they fixed it and balanced the wheel. NO charge! There are several of those in the Raleigh area. Wish they would put one in Greenville.

- **Dave Langley W4YDY**



## UC Berkeley Trains, Tests Hundreds of New Hams

Ham radio-related courses taught at the University of California Berkeley Campus and a follow-on “Annual VE Mega-Session” may be one reason that California continues to lead the nation in the number of Amateur Radio licensees. A March 16 exam session yielded 50 new Technician licensees, as well as three new General class, and five new Amateur Extra class licensees. For the third year in a row, scores of mostly electrical engineering and computer science students capped their participation in one of two ham radio-related classes taught by UC Berkeley EE/CS Professor **Michael “Miki” Lustig, KK6MRI**. His lower-division “Hands-On Ham” course is for sophomores, while his upper-division “Digital Signal Processing” course is aimed at juniors and seniors.

“These popular courses are filled quickly on registration day,” **Lustig** said. “Class members also include some majoring in mechanical, biological, and nuclear engineering.”

The entry-level course exposes newcomers to ham radio and introduces them to “hacking” and “making,” **Lustig** explained, while the advanced class “delves into the theoretical ap-

plications of digital signal processing, filter design, modulation/demodulation, decoding subcarriers, APRS audio interface techniques, and antenna design.” Both classes feature hands-on, practical projects that require them to transmit on radio frequencies, so students are motivated, as part of their courses, to become licensed Amateur Radio operators.”

The lower-division students are given inexpensive hand-held transceivers to keep, and are coached in radio protocols. The upper division students are issued higher-end hand-helds that they may keep if they pass the General or Amateur Extra class examination.

“They make satellite contacts, participate in on-campus Field Day-like activities, practice with small software-designed radio dongles, and, if already licensed, stay in touch with each other throughout the semester on a 2 meter simplex frequency,” **Lustig** told ARRL.

**Lustig** is quick to point out that the two courses would not be possible without the active support of the UC Berkeley **W6BB** club members, including Trustee **Fritz Sommer K6EE/DL4TT**, President, **Jack**

**Burris K6JEB**, and others, as well as support from the EECS Department staff.

**Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ**, is the master planner, organizer, coordinator, and captain of the annual VE Mega-Session, which requires recruiting at least 20 ARRL VEC-affiliated volunteer examiners to conduct the session. These come from the Marin Amateur Radio Society, the San Francisco Radio Club, the East Bay Amateur Radio Club, and others.

The lower-division students are primarily candidates for the Technician license and are in and out of the room within a half-hour or so. “Virtually all of them pass,” **Primbsch** said. “Most upper-division students at least take both the Technician and General exams, and a few opt to go all the way to Amateur Extra.”

In the latest VE session, 63 candidates took a total of 78 exam elements in a little more than 2 hours. **Only one candidate left without a license.**

-via ARRL (<http://bit.ly/1TCh3oS>)

## February 2016 BARC VE Session Results

On the February 16, 2016 BARC VE session, two candidates passed the Technician exam.

Successful candidates on Element 2 were **Jonathan T. Jones, KM4ROA**, Greenville, and **George A. Liptak, Jr., KM4ROB**, Chocowinity.

Their new call signs were assigned by the FCC on February 26,

2016. BARC congratulates **Jonathan** and **George** for their accomplishment.

The VE's that attended were VE **Liaison Steve Horne II, KB5B**, **Morris Lewis, AK4MU**, **Dan Wallace, K4HMW**, **Gary Coriell, KE5ACR**, **Thomas Styron, KB7L**, and **Dave Langley, W4YDY**.

**The next regular BARC VE session is scheduled for**

**April 19, 2016**

# 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: Joe Jean-sonne** or email to: hamchatter @ w4amc.com(no spaces)

## 26<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL DOWN EAST HAMFEST

An ARRL Sanctioned HAMFEST

Saturday, **April 23, 2016**—8 AM until 2 PM  
Lenoir Community College Gymnasium-Kinston, NC  
231 Hwy 58 South (Please use Hwy 58 entrance)

**For HAMFEST info:** (252) 347-1498

Web: www.downeasthamfest.org / Email: bhighland@nc.rr.com

## 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, W4YDY** or email

**barc@w4amc.com**

Help support *Ham Chatter* and the club.

**Donations accepted!**

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## BARC Regular Meeting Minutes—March 2016

March 8, 2016

The meeting was called to order by President **Jeff Meyer** at 7:30 PM

The Pledge of Allegiance was next and the introduction of members and guests. A total of 23 people were present

There was no Secretary's report and the Treasury balance was reported by Jeff Meyer.

Our program guest was chief meteorologist **Jerry Jackson** of WNCT TV who presented: NC Storms: the big ones (extreme storms, hurricanes, tornadoes, and snow in NC

history).

Jeff suggested hobbies as possibilities for future programs and circulated a survey soliciting suggestions from the membership.

The next VE exam session is scheduled for April 19.

A Skywarn session is scheduled for Mar. 17 at 9AM and 1PM at Mendenhall auditorium, ECU.

**Al Mullis** will coordinate HAM coverage of the MS walk, Saturday, Mar 17.  
Future hamfests: Mar 23 Down East, Apr 2, RARS

The BARC website has been transferred to **Mike Monteith** (Barc@w4amc.com).

**Doug**, K4MOK reported on activities at NC QSO party. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM

Respectfully submitted, **Bob Hanrahan**, **AF4QY**, secretary.

## BARC Board Meeting Minutes—March 2016

March 29, 2016

The meeting was called to order by President **Jeff Meyer** at 7:30PM. Present were **John McCoy**, **Bob Hanrahan**, **Terry Monday**, **Gerry Clayton** and **Dave Langley**

**Treasurer's report:** A balance of \$3670.69 was in the treasury. Two advertising checks were pending in accounts receivable.

**New Business:** April BARC program- **Dave Langley** will present Dxpediton, including Heard Island, currently in use near Antarctica. Programs have been planned for the

rest of the year.

Website features were discussed for educational material and URL links to interesting websites

The possibility of using books for door prizes was discussed.

Field day is coming up and we need to choose a site. Last year, arrangements were made at Oakwood school by **Peter Van Houten**.

There was discussion of replacing the broken antenna with something like a G5RV at the school as an incentive to let us use the site. **Terry** will contact **Peter**.

Questionnaire from **Jeff** about interests of members was discussed. He will summarize the results.

**Dave** needs the list of dues paid members from **Jeff** before the website roster password is changed.

**Bob** followed up on a proposal to invite new licensees to join BARC free for the first year with a motion that was seconded and carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:44PM  
Respectfully submitted, **Bob Hanrahan**, **AF4QY**, secretary.

## ARRL Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology Announces 2016 Schedule

The deadline is May 1 for educators to apply for a spot in this summer's ARRL Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology sessions. These educational opportunities are offered by the ARRL Education & Technology Program (ETP).

Two introductory sessions and one advanced session are scheduled. The Introduction to Wireless Technology course (TI-1) will be presented June 20-24 at Parallax Inc in Rocklin, California, and July 25-29 at ARRL Headquarters in Newington, Connecticut. The advanced Remote Sensing and Data Gathering course (TI-2) will be offered July 18-21 at the Dayton Amateur Radio Association in Dayton, Ohio. The TI-1 course is a prerequisite to TI-2. An article in March QST offers more details about each 4-day course, or visit the ARRL Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology page on the ARRL website.

Now in its 13th year, the ARRL Teachers Institute is an expenses-paid, intensive professional development opportunity for educators who want to receive training and resources to explore wireless technology in the classroom and integrate science and math with engineering and technology.

Topics covered in the Introduction to Wireless Technology (TI-1) course include basic electronics, radio science, microcontroller programming and basic robotics.

The advanced course on Remote Sensing and Data Gathering (TI-2).

Visit the ARRL website for more information, and to download and complete an application and the pre-workshop survey. Applicants must be teaching in a school, college, or professional educational organization serving grade levels 4-12+ or leading a school-affiliated enrichment program in an official capacity. With the application, prospective attendees should provide a cover letter on school letterhead, signed by the applicant and a school administrator, stating that you would like to attend. A \$100 enrollment fee is required, and class space is limited.

To date, the ARRL Education & Technology Program has provided resources, including ham radio equipment and training, to more than 650 teachers and 570 schools.

Contributions from individuals and from corporate and institutional supporters make the annual ARRL Teachers Institutes possible. Donations to support the ARRL's efforts to promote Amateur Radio in schools and to provide professional development to education are welcome.

-via ARRL (<http://bit.ly/1TChMq6>)

## NETS VHF/UHF

- ◆ BARC Net, Mondays, 2000 on 147.09 MHz, W4GDF Repeater.
- ◆ Newport SkyWarn Tues. nights 2100E Grifton-146.685-88.5 tone Newport-145.450.....  
IRLP 8561 links to Columbia Jacksonville-147.000- 88.5 tone Oriental-147.210-151.4 tone 444 Newport-444.825- 88.5 tone Swansboro-146.760- 88.5 tone
- ◆ Grantsboro-145 230 - 85.4 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, Thursdays @ 2000 on 146.76 MHz.
- ◆ Piedmont Coastal Traffic Net, Nightly 2030 on 146.88 MHz.
- ◆ Carteret County ARS (CCARS) Emergency Net, Tuesdays, 1930 on the Newport 145.45 (-) MHz.
- ◆ Coastal Emergency Linking Net, Wednesday, 2100 ET on Ahoskie 145.13, Buxton 145.15, Columbia 146.835 & 443.30, Elizabeth City 146.655, Greenville, 145.35, Hertford 147.33, Williamston 145.41 & 444.25

## HF

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

## NTS CW Nets

- ◆ 3.571 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

## Greenville repeaters

147.09/69 - 145.35/144.75

444.8/449.8

All use 131.8 tone



# BARC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

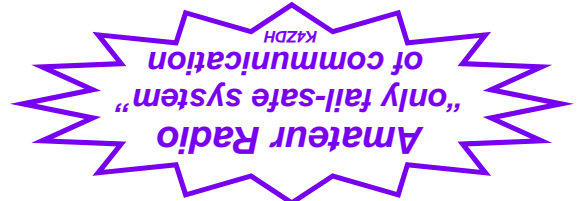
Apr 12..... Regular Meeting  
 Apr 19..... VE Exam  
 Apr 23..... Down East Hamfest- Kinston\*\*  
 Apr 26..... Board Meeting  
 May 10 ..... Regular Meeting  
 May 28/29 ..... CQ WW CW WPX Contest  
 May 31..... Board Meeting  
 Jun 14 ..... Regular Meeting  
 Jun 21 ..... VE Exam  
 Jun 25/28..... ARRL Field Day  
 Jun 28 ..... Board Meeting  
 Jul 12..... Regular Meeting  
 Jul 9/10 .....IARU HF World Championship  
 Jul 26 ..... Board Meeting  
 Aug 9 ..... Regular Meeting  
 Aug 16 .....VE Exam

Aug 30 ..... Board Meeting  
 Sep 2/4 ..... Shelby Hamfest  
 Sep 13 ..... Regular Meeting  
 Sep 24/25 ..... CW WW RTTY DX Contest  
 Sep 26 ..... Board Meeting  
 Oct 9 ..... Maysville Hamfest  
 Oct 11 ..... Regular Meeting  
 Oct 18 ..... VE Exam  
 Oct 29/30 ..... CQ WW SSB DX Contest  
 Oct 25 ..... Board Meeting

Regular Meeting - 2nd Tuesday @ 7:30 PM  
 Board Meeting - Last Tuesday

BARC 2 METER NET - MONDAY NIGHTS AT 8:00 PM - 147.09 W4GDF REPEATER - 131.8 Tone  
 BRIGHTLEAF AMATEUR RADIO CLUB STATIONS

**W 1 V O A - W 4 A M C - W 4 U H S**



**APRIL 2016  
 Next Meeting  
 April 12, 2016**

To:



**Ham Chatter**  
 Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club  
 PO Box 8387  
 Greenville, NC 27835