



# Ham Chatter



**Amateur Radio**  
"only fail-safe system"  
of communication  
K4ZDH



Volume 50 Issue 6

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June 2016

Editor, Joe Jeansonne, WB4JOE

Email: hamchatter @ w4amc.com

## Hollywood Producer, ARRL Patron Dave Bell, W6AQ, SK

Award-winning Hollywood producer and ARRL benefactor Dave Bell, W6AQ, of Encinitas, California, died on May 13. He was 84 and had been a radio amateur for 65 years. Bell had been suffering from cancer and was in hospice care. An ARRL Life Member and a former chair of the ARRL Public Relations Committee, Bell directed Amateur Radio Today and produced several other ham radio-related promotional videos and films, starting with The Ham's Wide World, a TV documentary filmed in black and white.

"If I have a claim to fame in Amateur Radio, it's probably that I produced the first television documentary about ham radio that got worldwide distribution, and then I made several others before I 'retired' from the ham radio film/video hobby-within-a-hobby and got busy making a living producing TV movies, specials, and documentaries for all of the networks including HBO and Showtime, and made a couple of theatrical feature films — Nadia and The Long Walk Home," Bell recounted on his QRZ.com profile. He started TV's Unsolved Mysteries, and he received an Emmy Award in 1985 for Outstanding Drama/Comedy Special, Do You Remember Love. Bell chronicled his filmmaking and his Amateur Radio and professional lives in a memoir, World's Best Hobby.

Last year, Bell and his wife Sam, W6QLT (she's a quilter), donated a signed Andy Warhol print to the ARRL. The artwork — "Myths: Superman 1981" — sold at auction last fall for \$150,000. The proceeds are being used to create "The Dave Bell,

W6AQ, Endowment Fund" to benefit the League.

Bell also produced The World of Amateur Radio, This is Ham Radio, and Moving Up to Amateur Radio. He directed the Amateur Radio Today video in 2002. The short presentation about emergency preparedness was narrated by former CBS Evening News anchor Walter Cronkite, KB2GSD (SK), written by Alan Kaul, W6RCL, and produced by Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF (SK) and Bill Baker, W1BKR. Bell and Pasternak also created The DIY Magic of Amateur Radio in 2011, and he co-produced The ARRL Goes to Washington, also voiced by Cronkite. Working on his own, Bell filmed videos for the World Radiosport Team Championship (WRTC) events in 2000 in Slovenia (The Ham Radio Olympics) and in 2002 in Finland.

A DXer, casual contester, and a past president of the Southern California DX Club, Bell was a frequent speaker at Amateur Radio gatherings. He was named the 1984 Ham of the Year at Dayton Hamvention®, and, in 2003, the ARRL presented Bell with its first Lifetime Achievement Award for his work on films and videos about Amateur Radio. In 2011 he was named to the CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame.

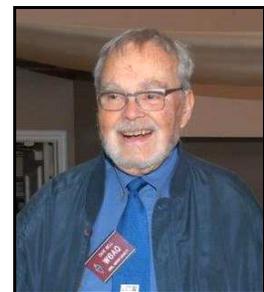
Heil Sound Ltd's Bob Heil, K9EID, called Bell "one of the great ones." Heil said Bell's "great smile and laughter" and his "generosity to the hobby" would be missed, "but most of all, we will miss his spirit."

-via ARRL (<http://bit.ly/1tf9nPK>)

## Next Meeting June 14, 2016

The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club will have its next meeting on Tuesday, June 14, 7:30 PM at VFW Post Home 7032 on 1108 Mumford Road in Greenville. There will be **Field Day** plans and a video about **Apollo 11** and the problems leading up to it. There's sure to be some surprises by the people who solved the problems.

All members, families and guests are invited to attend.



DaveBell

## BARC Board Meeting

The next board meeting will be Tuesday, June 28th at 7:30 PM at the Offices of Monday & Monday, (CPA), Suite D, East Victoria Court. All members invited.

## MMSN Responds to Mayday Call from Stranded Vessel

The crew of a sailing vessel that foundered on a reef in the South Pacific in early May was safely rescued, thanks in part to the alert ear of Maritime Mobile Service Network (MMSN) member Russell Taylor, AI6GV, of San Marcos, California. On May 3, Taylor monitored a "Mayday" call on 14.300 MHz from the Alaska-based Morning Dove, at the time some 200 miles northeast of French Polynesia. The vessel's captain, Bruce Moroney, KL3RK, reported that the 46-foot ketch, which had been en route from Apataki Atoll to Rangiroa — a passage of about 80 miles, had become stuck on a reef and was unable to move. The crew transmitted the Mayday distress call after the vessel began taking on water. "We could see reef from the cockpit, we were lodged on a reef," Moroney explained afterward to Latitude 38. "I tried to reverse with no effect. Within 10 minutes conditions became extreme." Moroney said the ketch's hull and diesel fuel tank breached. An emergency position-indicating radio beacon (EPIRB) was activated, and a Mayday put out. "Within 15 minutes the radios were underwater," Moroney said. Taylor apprised the US Coast Guard of the situation and of the vessel's position. The French Navy subsequently dispatched a helicopter to the area within about 6 hours

of the incident, airlifting the four unharmed crew members to safety. Efforts were reported under way to retrieve the grounded vessel. The Coast Guard later called Taylor, telling him that if he had not monitored the Mayday, the consequences could have been devastating for the crew.

Assisting in the event were long-time net member William Sturridge, KI4MMZ, in Florida and his friend Peter Mott, ZL1PWM, in New Zealand who relayed information.

The Maritime Mobile Service Network monitors 14.300 MHz with operators on scheduled shifts from 1700 to 0300 UTC. "This incident occurred well after scheduled net operations, when propagation on 20 meters usually is minimal at best," Assistant Net Manager Jeff Savasta, KB4JKL, said. He pointed out that MMSN members often continue to monitor the frequency outside of the net's regular schedule, keeping an ear open for just such events. "For the people on this vessel, it was a lucky day for them to have such a capable operator as Russ, AI6GV," he added.

- Read More at ARRL (<http://bit.ly/1tfaT4a>)

## Next VE Session

The next Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club VE session will be held **Tuesday, June 21, 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 **June**.

|    |        |                   |
|----|--------|-------------------|
| 4  | KK4LHL | Jonathan O'Quinn  |
| 11 | WA4SLC | Bill Dawson       |
| 12 |        | Lindalee Hanrahan |
| 15 | AI4TN  | Bill Finch, Jr.   |
| 17 | K4IDD  | Gerry Clayton     |
| 27 | W4JNC  | Richard Campbell  |

*Additions or corrections to WB4JOE*

## Well Wishes

Thoughts and Prayers go out to the following:

**Charlie Wells, K4SKI**

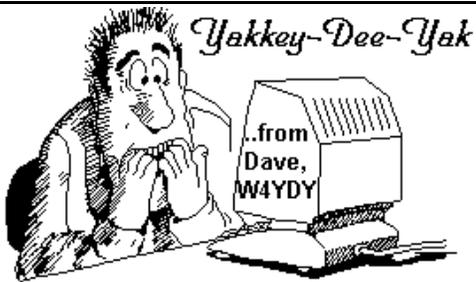
*Please inform Gerry Clayton, K4IDD, [gclayton4 @ suddenlink.net](mailto:gclayton4@suddenlink.net) of any changes.*



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Field Day will be discussed at the June meeting. It starts only 11 days after the meeting so be sure to help with the plans and plan to attend the event. For those that have got their license recently and you have never attended a Field Day, it's a great opportunity to meet fellow members on an informal setting, help set up stations and antennas and operate the radios. You will be able to operate any of the contest bands even if you don't have the Amateur Extra Class license.

There will be several Extra Class operators there as control operators so you can get some valuable experience even you only have a Tech or General license. Even unlicensed operators can operate as long as there is a control operator at the radio.

Many Boy Scouts have got their first experience with Amateur Radio at the BARC Field Days. Go to <http://www.w4amc.com/fd/fdpic05.html> to see pictures 11 years ago of my 3 grandsons operating at ages 5, 9 and 13. The oldest is now W4DWA. All 3 are now Eagle Scouts.

You will probably leave and decide it's time to upgrade! In the past, there have been several that upgraded soon after Field Day because of their experience operating during Field Day. For those that

are not familiar with Field Day, please go to <http://www.w4amc.com/barcpics.html> and look at some of the video and pictures of past BARC Field Days back to 20 years ago to last year. That should get you interested.

Also, plans are being made for an outstanding catered meal on Saturday evening. There will be more about that at the club meeting. After hearing the menu, you will probably get hungry just listening to that!

Plans are to have Field Day again for the second time at the Oakwood School campus at 4000 MacGregor Downs Road. The site provides plenty of space and easy access with restroom facilities.

Amateur Radio lost a great patron on May 13 when Hollywood Producer Dave Bell, W6AQ, passed away. He was a big supporter of the ARRL.

I really enjoyed exchanging emails with him a couple of years ago and contacted him on the radio a few times. I read his book when he was writing it on the internet and later bought the hard copy when he finished it. See my column in last month's Ham Chatter for some of my comments about him. There's much more about Dave on the ARRL web site at <http://www.arrl.org/news/hollywood-producer-arrl-patron-dave-bell-w6aq-sk>.

Nineteen years ago was my first issue of Ham Chatter as editor

and it lasted 18 years! Joe Jean-sonne, WB4JOE, has been doing an excellent job since he took the editor's position a year ago. Thanks Joe.

- W4YDY

## Arrrr, Mateys! Pirates Abound

Ahoy! Ever-persistent Hassan the Pirate from Baghdad, Iraq, continues to plague the Amateur Radio bands. According to The Daily DX, this individual has been pirating and bootlegging multiple call signs for several years. He's been heard bootlegging YI1HR, YI1H, YI1HRP, and YI1HI, and pirating the call signs YI1BGD, YI1IRQ, YI1DZ, and, most recently TA7/YI1RZ.

Telecommunication enforcement in Iraq appears to be lax to non-existent, so it's unlikely the government there will do anything about the situation. Hassan operates on 20 meters SSB, usually around 14.178 to 14.188 MHz. The best policy here: Do not engage, do not spot.

Elsewhere, pirate 1A0KM Sovereign Military Order of Malta operations continue and have been spotted. All bona fide 1A0KM activities are publicized in advance on the 1A0KM QRZ.com page. — Thanks to The Daily DX.

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

## FCC Denies Petition for Consideration in Vanity Call Sign Dispute

An Arizona radio amateur has been unsuccessful in convincing the FCC to take a 1 × 2 vanity call sign away from its present holder and grant it to him. In the process, Joshua Babb, K6FZ, may have learned not to rely on informal advice from FCC staffers. Babb, of Maricopa, Arizona, had been trying to get the initial-suffix call sign W3JB since 2014, and he was briefly successful. The prior holder of W3JB, John K. Birch, had died, and the 2-year waiting period was set to end on August 18, 2014. Babb filed an application for W3JB in July 2014, however, claiming an exemption to the 2-year waiting period on grounds that he was the deceased licensee's nephew, and the FCC granted it. Subsequently pressed to document that relationship, Babb indicated that Birch actually had been his great-great uncle, the FCC recounted in an Order on Reconsideration released on May 25 — a relationship that did not qualify for an exemption.

“Because you did not qualify for the exemption, the [Mobility] Division concluded that you should not have been granted call sign W3JB during the 2-year waiting period,” the FCC told Babb in its Order.

The FCC proposed to modify Babb's license by replacing W3JB with KD7HLX, but in September of 2015, Babb filed to swap W3JB for the available K6FZ, which was granted the following month. Under Commis-



sion rules, when a call sign is granted in error after the normal 2-year waiting period has ended, it becomes unavailable for 30 days after the erroneous grant is rescinded. The FCC informed Babb of this provision at the time it granted K6FZ, telling him he could reapply.

Babb sought clarification of the W3JB availability date from an FCC staff member, who calculated that it was November 2, 2015. Babb filed two preference-list applications for W3JB on that date as well as one on

November 3 and another on November 5. The FCC instead granted W3JB to Scott Phillips of Plano, Texas, who had filed a competing November 3 application and was granted through the FCC's “standard lottery process.” The FCC staffer subsequently informed Babb that his advice had been incorrect, and that November 3 was the correct date.

On December 1, 2015, Babb file a Petition for Reconsideration of the grant to Phillips, arguing that, based on his prior staff communication, the call sign should have become available on November 2. The FCC said such a petition “must identify a material error, omission, or other reason that justifies further consideration” and that Babb's Petition failed to do so. The FCC said its Universal Licensing System (ULS) had processed the applications correctly.

“[E]rroneous staff advice is not grounds for reconsideration,” the FCC said in its denial Order. “Licensees are obligated to know the Commission's rules. It is well established that an applicant acts on staff advice at his own risk.” In any case, the FCC pointed out, Babb nonetheless had filed an application on the correct day.

-via ARRL (<http://bit.ly/1tf9eLW>)

## April 2016 BARC VE Session Results

On the April 19, 2016 BARC VE session, three candidates passed Amateur Radio exams.

**Roger Freeman, KE0IUP**, Cook, MN, passed Element 2 to earn the Technician license and received his new call sign from the FCC on April 27, 2016. Roger came down from Wake Forest where he was visiting his daughter. **Karen Burke, KM4NVN**, Cove City, NC passed Element 3 to

upgrade to General Class license. **Gary Faust, N4PIR**, Chowinity, NC passed Element 4 to upgrade to the Amateur Extra Class license. BARC congratulates all for their accomplishment.

The VE's that attended were VE Liaison Steve Horne II, **KB5B**, Morris Lewis, **AK4MU**, Dan Wallace, **K4HMY**, and Dave Langley, **W4YDY**.

The next regular  
BARC VE session is  
scheduled for **June**  
**21, 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](mailto:hamchatter@w4amc.com)(no spaces)

## FOR SALE

1. New never used **Wouxun KG-UVD1P** Dual Band transceiver with desktop charger, antenna, Li-ion battery. \$100

2. **Tar Heel Model 100 Screwdriver antenna** with MFJ programmable controller. The Lexan cover is cracked at the top. \$350. Or best offer.

I would also be interested in trading my Model 100 for a **Little Tarheel II HP** with mount or a good mobile HF Radio.

Randy Davenport, KA4NMA, Email [pastor.spaceboy@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.spaceboy@gmail.com) or Phone 252-375-9379.

I have an **Yaesu FT 897** for sale in excellent condition, for \$500.00. I don't have a pwr supply, but do have an extra manual.

My home number is 252-756-0020

**BERNARD NOBLES**

For Sale: **Ten Tech Argonaut with P/S**  
Call **Scott Worley, KA4DMW**,  
for details @ 252 752 6788



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## BARC Regular Meeting Minutes—May 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 18 people were present.

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

Marty W4MY presented awards for NC QSO Party, VOA Site C accepted by Richard Campbell for outstanding service by the W4AMC club station. Marty also presented a special award to K4ROK for outstanding contributions to our club.

Public Service, Health and Wellness, and Publicity representatives are needed on BARC staff.

## BARC Board Meeting Minutes—May 2016

The meeting was attended by Dave Langley, Terry Monday and Bob Hanrahan and was adjourned early for lack of a quorum.

## School Hoping Reboot will Bring STMSat-1 to Life

It's been a week since the St Thomas More Cathedral School's STMSat-1 CubeSat was deployed from the International Space Station, and the spacecraft has yet to phone home. Students and faculty and the Washington, DC-area grade school now are pinning their hopes on a reboot signal that will be sent to the satellite at around 0400 UTC on May 24.

"As with any satellite, you have to be able to communicate to kill it due to security reasons," explained STMSat-1 STM Education Manager Emily Stocker in response to an ARRL inquiry. "We built in a way to communicate to reboot, but will not receive any information regarding the satellite's health or why we have not heard from it. This was part of our mission plan — if not heard from in 7 days, we would reboot. Cross your fingers!"

A Twitter post on behalf of STMSat-1 put it more succinctly: "System reboot today — bring me to life!"

Pupils at the school built STMSat-1 during a 4-year-long project, and the satellite was launched to the ISS last December. After being placed in orbit (it is object 41476), the CubeSat initially continued roughly in the same orbit as the ISS and of other satellites that also were deployed on May 16, but it's been moving away a little bit each day. Stocker said last week that STMSat-1 was supposed to turn itself on once its batteries were fully charged and its mechanized antennas deployed.

The satellite is designed to transmit slow-scan television (SSTV) images of Earth on 437.800 MHz FM, although at one point, Stocker said, the

school's NASA contact indicated they should try listening on 437.000 MHz. "Many people were wondering why it was 'changed' to 437.000, and that was because NASA thought we may be able to hear it there instead," Stocker told ARRL. She said NASA later advised STMSat-1 watchers to go back to monitoring the CubeSat's IARU-coordinated frequency of 437.800 MHz and to follow the STMSat-1 Twitter feed, @STMSat11, to stay up to date.

The satellite is the first to be designed and built by grade schoolers, who were supported by NASA technical advisors and local radio amateurs. The kit-built satellite initially had been set for release into space in mid-February. That deployment was postponed until early March, however, before being put on hold again. The satellite project is part of the school's STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) education initiatives.

NASA's Technology Demonstration Office provided the school with a mobile "clean room" for the construction period and has been advising the school on tracking the satellite. The space agency also provided the school with a ground station antenna to receive its 70 centimeter signals, once the satellite comes to life. NASA engineers programmed the operating frequencies for the transmitter in early 2014 and have been working with the school post-deployment.

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

## 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

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**Greenville repeaters**  
**147.09/69 - 145.35/144.75**  
**444.8/449.8**  
**All use 131.8 tone**

# BARC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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 25 ..... Board Meeting  
 Oct 29/30 ..... CQ WW SSB DX Contest  
 Nov 5/6 .....ARRL CW Sweepstakes  
 Nov 8 .....Regular Meeting  
 Nov 19/20 .....ARRL SSB Sweepstakes  
 Nov 26/27 .....CQ WW CW DX Contest  
 Nov 29 .....Board Meeting  
 Dec 3-4 .....ARRL 160 Meter Contest  
 Dec 10-11 .....ARRL 10 Meter Contest  
**Dec 13 .....BARC Christmas Party**  
 Dec 20 .....VE Exam  
 Dec 27 .....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**



**JUNE 2016**  
**Next Meeting**  
**June 14, 2016**

To:



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