

Ham Chatter



Volume 51 Issue 01

An Official BARC, W4AMC, Publication

January 2017

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Peter Van Houten, KG4WEZ, BARC Ham of the Year

**Next Meeting
January 10, 2017**

Peter Van Houten, KG4WEZ, was presented the BARC Ham of the Year plaque by BARC President Jeff Meyer, K4DKW, at the December Christmas Party. Peter was selected BARC Ham of the Year by club members when they voted at the November meeting. Peter has put in a lot of time and work fixing up the ARES emergency trailer by adding solar panels, batteries and a lot of re-wiring. He also painted it and that reduced the temperature up to 20 degrees in summer days. White paint on top did the trick. Congratulations Peter on the much deserved award.

David Langley, W4YDY; VE Morris Lewis, AK4MU; VE Dan Wallace, K4ZYM; VE Terry Monday, K4ZYD; VE Gary Coriell, KE5ACR; and VE Thomas Styron, KB7L.

2016 BARC Officers presented certificates were President Jeff Meyer, K4DKW, First Vice President Gerry Clayton, K4IDD, Second Vice President David Langley, W4YDY, Secretary Bob Hanrahan, AF4QY, Treasurer Jeff Meyer, K4DKW, Trustee Terry Monday, K4ZYD, and Trustee John McCoy, K4KBB. Some of those listed above were not at the party.

Certificates were also presented to members for their participation in BARC activities that keeps the club running. The following received certificates. New Ham of the Year, Mike Monteith, KM4OLT; OM of the Year, David Langley, W4YDY; Elmer of the Year, Jeff Meyer, K4DKW.

A great time was had by all. There was more than enough good food fixed by mainly the club members spouses. Thanks to Terry Monday, K4ZYD, and his MUCH better spouse for the party setup and beverages.

Volunteer certificates were presented to Club Station Trustee, Tom Parsons, W4TEP; Public Relations/Publicity; Pat Williams, KG4NSC; Ham Chatter Editor, Joe Jeansonne, KB4JOE; Web Site Editor, Mike Monteith, KM4OLT.

For the BARC Volunteer Examiners that administer Amateur Radio exams, the following receive certificates; Volunteer Examiner Liaison,



**Peter Van Houten - KG4WEZ
Ham of the Year**

The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club will have its regular meeting at 7:30 PM Tuesday, **January 10**, at VFW Post 7032 on 1108 Mumford Road in Greenville. The program will be by ARRL NC Section Manager Karl Bowman, W4CHX. He will have the latest news about the ARRL and the North Carolina Section.

All members, families and guests are invited to attend.



Karl Bowman — W4CHX

BARC Board Meeting

The next board meeting will be Tuesday, January 31 at 7:30 PM at the Offices of Monday & Monday, (CPA), Suite D, East Victoria Court.

All members invited.

FCC Denies Expert Linears' Request for Waiver of 15 dB Rule, Petition Pending

The FCC has denied a request by Expert Linears America LLC to waive 97.317(a) (2) of the Amateur Service rules limiting amplifier gain. Expert, of Magnolia, Texas, distributes linears manufactured by SPE in Italy. Its waiver request, filed in June, would have allowed Expert to import an amplifier capable of exceeding the current 15 dB gain limitation as it awaits FCC action on its April petition (RM-11767) to revise the same Amateur Service rules. That petition remains pending. Expert has asserted that there should be no gain limitation on amplifiers sold or used in the Amateur Service. Most commenters supported Expert's waiver request, but a couple of commenters - including FlexRadio - demurred.

"In light of the conflicting comments regarding the desirability of eliminating the 15 dB limitation, we conclude that waiving the limitation at this stage of the rulemaking proceeding would prejudice the rulemaking proceeding and prematurely dispose of commenters' concerns," the FCC said in denying the waiver. "Moreover, we agree with FlexRadio that granting Expert's waiver request while the rulemaking petition remains pending would provide an unfair market advantage for one equipment model over other manufacturers' RF power amplifiers that

would still be limited by [the existing rules]."

The FCC said it would rather give full consideration to "the pending issues" and apply the result of the rulemaking proceeding to all Amateur Radio Service equipment. The Commission said rule waivers "generally" are not warranted "merely to accommodate technical parameters that are based solely on harmonization with the manufacturer's products available abroad."

The FCC said a minority of those commenting on the waiver request expressed concern that eliminating the 15 dB limitation would lead to an overall increase in power levels, "including transmissions that intentionally or unintentionally exceed the maximum power limit."

In its April rulemaking petition, Expert maintained that the 15 dB gain limitation is an unneeded holdover from the days when amplifiers were less efficient and the FCC was attempting to rein in the use of Amateur Service amplifiers by Citizens Band operators.

- Read More at ARRL(<http://bit.ly/2j4ALKJ>)

Next VE Session

Exams will be held on **Tuesday, February 21, 2017** at VFW Post 7032 on 1108 Mumford Road in Greenville, NC. Exams will start promptly at 6:30 PM. For more info email **Gary, KE5ACR** at ve@w4amc.com. (remove spaces) Study material at <http://www.arrl.org/courses-training> 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!



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Happy Birthday

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

06 W4ESO Frank Spencer

Well Wishes

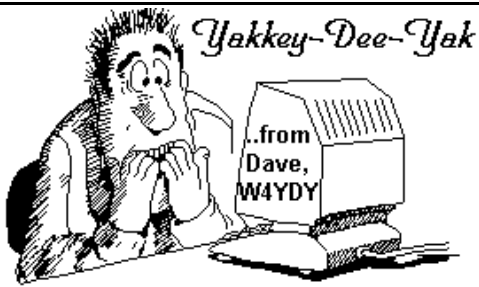
Thoughts and Prayers go out to the following:

Charlie Wells, K4SKI

Please inform Gerry Clayton, K4IDD, gclayton4@suddenlink.net of any changes.



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is set up to use. The equipment covers HF, VHF and UHF on the Amateur Radio bands and can also monitor other emergency services.

DUES again on January 1

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. For more info, go to <http://www.w4amc.com/barcnews.html#Dues> or elsewhere in this newsletter. If there is any question about your dues, contact Terry Monday, K4ZYD, BARC Treasurer, at [tamonday @ embarqmail.com](mailto:tamonday@embarqmail.com) or phone 756-6019.

Christmas Party

It's been a busy December for some BARC members. The Christmas party was enjoyed by the members who attended. There was good food and a lot of conversations between members and families. Also peer awards and participation certificates were presented. If you missed it, you missed a good one.

BARC Ham of the Year

Peter Van Houten, KG4WEZ, was selected BARC Ham of the Year and presented a plaque by BARC president Jeff Meyer, K4DKW. It was a easy decision by club members. Peter has put a lot of time and funds in fixing up the BARC/ARES trailer for a self contained communications unit. He had the trailer out at the Winterville Historical and Arts Society Amateur Radio Demonstration on December 11. Peter has rewired much of the trailer, painted it with white on top to make it much cooler, and added a solar panel to charge batteries. He also added a covered area at the back when it



SlashDot

A couple of months ago, I mentioned <https://slashdot.org> as a great web site to keep up with happenings of anything of interest, including tech subjects, national and international news, energy, space and even Amateur Radio. I glance at that site almost every day when I first turn on the computer and check the headlines. Many times I will see the same story on the TV news later that night and in the newspaper the next day. A couple of weeks ago, there was a story about the HRD logging program that was of special interest especially if you are using that program. It's located at <https://radio.slashdot.org/story/16/12/21/2110250/a-ham-radio-software-company-has-been-blacklisting-users-for-leaving-negative-reviews>. Check it out and make up you own mind about the article. - *1001001, Dave, W4YDY*

2017 Dues - January 1

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

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 Terry Monday, K4ZYD, BARC Treasurer, at [tamonday @ embarqmail.com](mailto:tamonday@embarqmail.com) (remove spaces in email address).

Thank you for your support and participation in BARC.

Winterville Historical and Arts Society Amateur Radio Demonstration

The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club conducted a demonstration on December 11, 2016 at the Winterville Historical Arts Society.

Bernie Nobles, WA4MOK setup and worked portable stations for the demonstration. During the event, Bernie demonstrated the operation of the Amateur Radio station to a future ham and his mother. The future ham asked Bernie many questions about Amateur Radio.

The Winterville Historical and Arts Society was pleased with the demonstration. An email excerpt from the Vice President of the Winterville Historical and Arts Society is included below:

"A huge thank you to the members of the Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club that made our open house such a success. Bernard, Dave and Peter made demonstrations and answered questions in a very professional manner and certainly may have inspired a new ham or two. Again, on behalf of the Winterville Historical and Arts Society, thank you!"

In attendance: Peter Van Houten, **KG4WEZ** - Dave Langley, **W4YDY** - Bernie Nobles, **WA4MOK** - Leland



Tucker, **WB4RQG**

Photos by Leland, **WB4RQG**.

December 2016 BARC VE Session Results

On the December 20, 2016 BARC VE session, eleven candidates attended and ten passed Amateur Radio exams. They came from eight different cities. It was a busy session and thanks to the VEs that assisted. They did an outstanding job getting all the paperwork completed.

Terry Daugherty, **K4ZZQ**, Raeford, NC, upgraded to General.

John Sublette, Cary, passed the Technician and General exams.

Jerry Caricofe, Edenton, Kenneth Davis, Hillsboro, NC, Joshua Edwards, Greenville, Kevin Estep, Zebulon, Fred Galarza, Beulaville, Nancy Leggett-Frazier, Greenville, Joshua Roberson, Washington, and Arnis Udris, New Bern, all passed the Technician exam. The new call signs will be updated when the FCC issues them. Congratulations to all that accomplished their task and welcome to the world of Amateur Radio for those awaiting their new call signs.

Joshua Edwards, Greenville, joined the Brightleaf ARC. Welcome Joshua.

The VE's that attended were VE Liaison Dave Langley, **W4YDY**, Morris Lewis, **AK4MU**, Dan Wallace, **K4HMY**, and Gary Coriell, **KE5ACR**. FCC Support (877) 480-3201

The next regular BARC VE session is scheduled for February 21, 2017.

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)


For Sale: Icom 7000, with a 7 inch video display, including box. \$875. Bernie, WA4MOK. Ph 252-531-4112 or wa4mok@embarqmail.com.

For Sale: Icom IC-756PROII including switching 30A power supply with cable, instruction book. No mic. Like new. Used as my backup radio. \$890. Org price about 3K. Dave, W4YDY, Ph 252-341-1733 or w4ydy@arrl.net

For Sale: Yaesu VR-5000 All Mode Communications Receiver. \$300. Covers 0.1 to 3000 MHz. Yaesu price was \$995. Contact Vern at Batteries Plus Bulbs for more info. 252-353-8143 or bp167@batteriesplus.net.

For Sale: Ten Tech Argonaut with P/S Call Scott Worley, KA4DMW, for details @ 252 752 67881405 Brownlea Dr., Greenville, NC 27858

MARK'S MARINE, INC.



Hwy. 33 East
Greenville, NC
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Fax 252 758-1396

Mark Langley
Mike Langley
KD4MTT

H&R BLOCK

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BARC Regular Meeting Minutes—December 2016

BARC Christmas Party

Dec 13, 2016

The meeting of members and guests began at 7PM with a Pot Luck Dinner.

A short business meeting followed the dinner. President Jeff Meyer, **K4DKW** recognized our past officers and passed out certificates of appreciation. Special recognition was given to the "OM" of the year, Dave Langley, **W4YDY** and the Ham of the year, Peter Van Houten, **KG4WEZ**.

A list of topics for future seminars at Oakwood was put out for attendees or presenters.

We need volunteers with vehicles to pull the BARC trailer, (trailer hitch has a 2 in ball). A discussion followed about local repeaters. The **W4GDF** 147.09 and 145.35 repeaters are not functioning properly. Bernie, **WA4MOK** had ideas about what may be wrong. The dipole array has a problem. The feedpoint has a high SWR. If the "bullet" in the transmission line is bad, it would be prohibitively expensive to fix. **WNCT**

is requiring a 5million dollar insurance policy to climb the tower.

Crossband communications in the (ARES) trailer for VHF/UHF was discussed to enable volunteers with UHF handy talkies to communicate over larger distances.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30PM

Respectfully submitted

Bob Hanrahan **AF4QY**, secretary

BARC Board Meeting Minutes—December 2016

BARC Board Meeting

December 27, 2016

The meeting was called to order by Jeff Meyer, **K4DKW** at 7:40 PM.

Attendees included Jeff; Terry Monday, **K4ZYD**; Dave Langley, **W4YDY**; Bob Hanrahan, **AF4QY**; Albert Sanchez **WA7FXB**.

The treasury checking account balance was given and noted.

Jeff presented his yearly schedule of topics for presentation.

Topics for January include:

Jan 10, next Regular BARC Meeting at the VFW.

Jan 23, Base station setup, operating modes, contesting and county hunting, (at Oakwood School- We need the trailer or an antenna out the window).

Jan 28 Show off (a member's) Shack would be nice.

Feb Antennas and feedlines, soldering, SWR, resonance and interference. Apr 1 Touch a Truck (at Greenville Mall)?

Future events:

For local festivals, we could bring the ARES Trailer to demonstrate Amateur Radio to visitors.

Santa at the hospital for children- would need to clear the use of equipment near medical

monitoring devices. The advantage of UHF over cell phones was brought up and considered. Weathermen at the local TV stations might bring a ham radio aspect to Santa's flight Hal Austin from NOAA NWS at Newport is coming Friday Feb 10 for a Skywarn presentation at Oakwood School. This will be open to members and the public as well as Oakwood School club members.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Hanrahan **AF4QY**, secretary.

Mexico Not Yet Extending Operating Permission to Non-Mexican Radio Amateurs

Broad changes in Mexico's radiocommunication regulatory environment 2 years ago continue to hinder Amateur Radio licensing there and still do not provide reciprocal permission for non-Mexican radio amateurs to operate South of the Border. Mexico's International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) member society the Federation of Mexican Radio Amateurs (FMRE) has been working with the new regulator, the Federal Telecommunications Institute (IFT) to craft more Amateur Radio-friendly licensing procedures and regulations, and there has been a little positive movement. The new regulatory regime considers the radio spectrum as an exploitable resource, and all former Amateur Radio regulations have been deemed null and void. To help acquaint regulators with the nuances of Amateur Radio, all IFT administrative staff completed the United States Telecommunications Training Institute (USTTI) Amateur Radio Administration Course last February, and this has yielded some positive results.

FMRE's new president, Alfonso "Poncho" Tamez, XE2O is the son of a radio amateur and a DXer is spearheading the society's negotiations with the IFT. At FMRE's National Convention in September, IFT Commissioner Adriana Labardini announced to loud cheers that her agency will get Amateur Radio licensing going again, after a 2-year delay. FMRE has estimated that of the 3,500 existing Mexican Amateur Radio licenses in place before the new law went into effect, more than 1,000 have expired and their renewal put on hold until the IFT works procedural details. She said the IFT expects to process more than 800 applications by year's end, with another batch of more than 1,400 to follow. An initial license will cost about \$30 US. One fly in the ointment: Amateurs must physically sign their "concession" at IFT when it's granted, but Mexico City is currently the only place they can do so. The status of Amateur Radio clubs also has been put in limbo by the new regulatory regime.

A revised IFT draft of Amateur Radio licensing procedures included specific provisions to grant Amateur Radio op-

erating permission and to make licensing requirements more consistent with the nature of the Amateur Radio Service. But significant gaps still exist. At this point, it is not even necessary to take an examination to obtain an Amateur Radio license called a "concession" in Mexico.

While the IFT has not yet determined what to do about foreign radio amateurs wishing to operate in Mexico, the agency has received 45 petitions to do so and is considering how it can issue permits; a foreigner cannot obtain a license under the new law, but may be given permission to operate as XE#/<home call sign>. Further, no regulations are in place regarding power output, license classes, licensing zones, interference, and other regulatory aspects.

IARU Region 2 Area C Vice President Ramon Santoyo, XE1KK, said a week doesn't go by in which Region 2 doesn't receive a request for help in obtaining a reciprocal license. On the other hand, Santoyo said, under the new rules, radio amateurs may loan their license to anyone, as long as operation will be within accepted parameters. "Therefore, it seems that the only way for a foreign amateur to operate is through a borrowed call sign," Santoyo said. He said IARU Region 2 gave the IFT a copy, in Spanish, of the ITU Handbook of Amateur Radio and Amateur Radio Services, hoping to point out the problems in the new legislation.

"There is plenty to do to correct these legal aberrations," Santoyo concluded, "but I the process we have seen that while amateurs are highly respected and beloved, we compete for the attention of a regulator and Congress with the big industry players, which in this world of economic interests, makes it hard to keep their attention in taking care of us." Santoyo told ARRL that nothing had changed as of this week.

-via ARRL (<http://bit.ly/2iA63w4>)

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

Dec 3-4	ARRL 160 Meter Contest	Feb 28	Board Meeting
Dec 10-11	ARRL 10 Meter Contest	Mar 4/5	ARRLSSB DX Contest
Dec 13	BARC Christmas Party	Mar 14	Regular Meeting
Dec 20	VE Exam	Mar 25/26	CQ WW SSB WPX Contest
Dec 27	Board Meeting	Mar 28	Board Meeting
Jan 1	ARRL Straight Key Night		Regular Meeting - 2nd Tuesday @ 7:30 PM
Jan 7/8	ARRL RTTY Roundup		Board Meeting - Last Tuesday
Jan 10	Regular Meeting		
Jan 27/29	CQ WW CW 160M Contest		
Jan 31	Board Meeting		
Feb 11/12	CQ WPX RTTY Contest		
Feb 14	Regular Meeting		
Feb 18/19	ARRL CW DX Contest		
Feb 21	BARC VE Session		
Feb 24/26	CQ WW SSB 160M Contest		
Feb 26	NC QSO Party		

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



JAN 2017
Next Meeting
Jan 10, 2017

To:



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