

HAM CHATTER



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Editor, Joe Jeanssonne, WB4JOE

Email: hamchatter @ w4amc.com

Harry K. Wolf, W6NKT, SK at 107; May Have Been World's Oldest Active Radio Amateur

Harry K. Wolf, W6NKT, of Morro Bay, California, has died. Just a couple of weeks short of his 108th birthday, Wolf may have been the oldest active radio amateur in the US, if not in the world, although no official records are maintained. Licensed since 1936, Wolf was an ARRL member and a Life Member of the Quarter Century Wireless Association (QCWA). Wolf was on the air daily, mostly on 40-meter CW.

Born in Paso Robles, California, Wolf said in his [QRZ.com](http://www.qrz.com) profile that he built his first radio as a young teenager in 1922. He got his ham ticket while living in Arizona, and held the call sign W6NKT for his entire life.

While serving in the US Navy during World War II, Wolf taught navigation to cadets in San Luis Obispo, California. Later, he served for 31 years as a professor of electronics engineering at two University of California campuses, retiring in 1973. Wolf was the founding advisor of the Cal Poly Amateur Radio Club and signed the club's original charter in 1947; in 2009, he donated a

Yaesu FTDX-9000D transceiver to the club. After retiring, Wolf went to Hong Kong Polytechnic for 4 years and operated as VS-6GF. His nephew, Tim Bryan, said his uncle also taught in Tanzania. After returning to the US, he lived in Florida until 1994, when he returned to Morro Bay.

Bryan told ARRL that his uncle was raised on a ranch in the Geneseo area and was once known as the fastest grain sack sewer in San Luis Obispo County, demonstrating the by-then lost art into his hundreds.

Neal Swanberg, KG6AYI, who is secretary of the Estero Radio Club, said Wolf last checked into the county net in late November. "We will all miss Harry's bright smile and good humor," he said. A memorial service is set for Saturday, January 28, at the Morro Bay Golf Course. — Thanks to Tim Bryan, Neal Swanberg, KG6AYI, and Marcel Stieber, AI6MS

-via ARRL (<http://bit.ly/2klP8vA>)

Next Meeting February 14, 2017

The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club will have its regular meeting at 7:30 PM Tuesday, February 14, at VFW Post 7032 on 1108 Mumford Road in Greenville. The program will be by Dave Wood, W4EJ, about "Noise Reduction Techniques for the Radio Amateur." It's also birthday time for BARC. Look for cake and ice cream to be served at the break.

All members, families and guests are invited to attend.



Dave Wood, W4EJ

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.

Amateur Radio Parity Act Speeds to U.S. House Passage, Heads to U.S. Senate

Just 10 days after being introduced, the 2017 Amateur Radio Parity Act legislation, H.R. 555, passed the U.S. House of Representatives this week on unanimous consent under a suspension of House rules. The bill's language is identical to that of the 2015 measure, H.R. 1301, which won House approval late last summer after attracting 126 co-sponsors, but failed to clear the U.S. Senate last fall as the 114th Congress wound down. The new bill, again sponsored by Rep. Adam Kinzinger (R-IL), was introduced on January 13 with initial co-sponsorship by Rep. Joe Courtney (D-CT) and Rep. Greg Walden, W7EQI (R-OR), who chairs the influential House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

"The grassroots effort of Amateur Radio operators across this nation in support of the Amateur Radio Parity Act has been remarkable, nothing like

we have ever seen before," ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, said. "To all hams, keep going! Now is the time to charge forward with that same momentum to the Senate. We can do it!" The bill arrives in the U.S. Senate with ample time in which to garner its approval through an education campaign.

"We're very encouraged by the speed with which this bill made it through the House. It's amazing that this happened," said ARRL Hudson Division Director Mike Lisenco, N2YBB, who has been at the forefront of the legislative initiative. "With the help of ARRL members, we believe we can get this done," Lisenco continued. "We came within a hair's breadth last time, with 110,000 e-mails to members of both houses of Congress, as well as letters and telephone calls. Member participation in this final push is critical." -via ARRL (<http://bit.ly/2jueCbX>)

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/coursestraining>. 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://bit.ly/1FOhE1S>>.

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 **February**.

04	K1GAEU	John Brawl
09	NC4RR	Neal Sumrell
11	KE5ACR	Gary Coriell
16	KG4WEZ	Peter Van Houten
17	K4ROK	Doug Ferris
19	N8RQR	Joe Motola
20	WD4JAD	George R. Dale
22	K4HMMW	W. Dan Wallace
25	N4GVK	Tom Forrest

Additions or corrections to KB4JOE

Well Wishes

Thoughts and Prayers go out to the following:

Charlie Wells, K4SK9

Please inform Joe Jeansonne, KB4JOE, of any changes.

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BARC Programs

At the February 14 meeting, Dave Wood, W4EJ, will present a program about “Noise Reduction Techniques for the Radio Amateur.” If you have anything such a wall warts, switching power supplies, small appliances, etc. that you suspect might be generating RF noise in your radio, you may bring it to the meeting for Dave to check. He will have test equipment at the meeting to check for noise.

The March 14 meeting is one that everyone looks forward to every year. Robert Young, NC4RY, founder, designer and technical support for the screwdriver Tarheel Antennas in Fuquay-Varina, will have the program that is always entertaining and informative. He has always drawn the biggest attendance of the year.

Illegal Drone Transmitters

The ARRL has set a letter to the FCC Spectrum Enforcement Division about potential interference to FAA air traffic control radars at airports and Air Route Surveillance Radars (ARSR). They cited the Lawmate transmitter and matching 6 watt amplifier as examples. Each cost less than \$100 from the internet. The drone transmitters operate between 1010 and 1280 MHz. There is also an Amateur Radio band from 1240

to 1300 MHz. That is used on a shared basis and one cannot interfere with the FAA facilities.

I worked at ARSR facilities for about 30 years. It has a range of about 200 miles and is used for enroute air traffic control between airports. In the USA, there are about 100 ARSR sites feeding into about 20 Air Route Traffic Control Centers (ARTCC). I worked at the Benson and Maiden (near Hickory) sites. The Maiden site only fed into the Atlanta Center (across the highway from the Atlanta racetrack) at Hampton, GA. The Benson site fed into Washington (at Leesburg, VA), Atlanta and Jacksonville (at Hillard, FL) Centers. That was because the Benson overlaps the three control areas.

The secondary radar at airports and ARSR sites transmit on 1030, about 1 watt, and receives on 1090 MHz. The aircraft receives on 1030 and transmits on 1090. They send back a 4 digit code for identification and another code for the aircraft altitude. Also at the ARSR sites is the primary radar that send out pulses that can be set from about 1280 to 1330 MHz to bounce back from the aircraft so distance and direction can be determined. Now that transmitter does run a lot of power because the signal bounced back from the aircraft is very weak. The primary radar runs about 4,500,000 watts peak power and with the high gain rotating antenna, the effective radiated power is about 12,000 megawatts! You didn’t want to get too close to the antenna when it was operating. But it does not ‘talk’ long. It’s only on

for 2 microseconds and listens for about 2700 microseconds before transmitting for another 2 microseconds. Average power on the amplifier is about 3000 watts. The amplifier tube sitting in an oil filed transformer was hit with a 2 microsecond 100,000 volt pulse. When operating, the amplifier cabinet was sealed with a solid copper coated door with thumb screws about 6 inches apart to seal it. Maybe that’s part of the reason I can’t hear as well as I use to after listening to that buzzzzz for 8 hours a day!

It looks like the ARRL is trying to head off another potential interference problem. Go to <http://www.arrl.org/news/illegal-drone-transmitters-could-interfere-with-air-traffic-control-arrl-complaint-asserts> for more information about the possible problems that could hit air traffic it there is interference.

New BPL coming?

Saw a link on QRZ.OOM about a possible new BPL system, broadband over power lines. It might be a good thing since it would not interfere with HF or VHF frequencies. The frequencies used would be above 30 GHz. AT&T wants to start trials with some power companies this fall. It looks like it is a ways down the road if it works. Go to <https://arstechnica.com/information-technology/2017/01/att-teams-with-power-companies-to-trial-broadband-over-power-lines/> for more information.

1001001, Dave, W4YDY

Illegal Drone Transmitters Could Interfere with Air Traffic Control, ARRL Complaint Asserts

In what it calls an “extremely urgent complaint” to the FCC, ARRL has targeted the interference potential of a series of audio/video transmitters used on unmanned aircraft and marketed as Amateur Radio equipment. In a January 10 letter to the FCC Spectrum Enforcement Division, ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, said the transmitters use frequencies intended for navigational aids, air traffic control radar, air route surveillance radars, and global positioning systems.

“This is, in ARRL’s view, a potentially very serious interference problem, and it is respectfully requested that the products referenced...be investigated and removed from the marketplace immediately and that the importers be subjected to normal sanctions,” ARRL’s letter said. Some of the transmitters operate on frequencies between 1,010 and 1,280 MHz. “These video transmitters are being marketed ostensibly as Amateur Radio equipment,” the League said, “but of the listed frequen-

cies on which the devices operate, only one, 1280 MHz, would be within the Amateur Radio allocation at 1240-1300 MHz.” Even then, ARRL said, operation there would conflict with a channel used for radio location.

ARRL said the use of 1,040 and 1,080 MHz, which would directly conflict with air traffic control transponder frequencies, represented the greatest threat to the safety of flight. The use of 1,010 MHz, employed for aeronautical guidance, could also be problematic.

ARRL cited the Lawmate transmitter and companion 6 W amplifier as examples of problematic devices being marketed in the US. Each costs less than \$100 via the Internet. The device carries no FCC identification number.

“[T]he target market for these devices is the drone hobbyist, not licensed radio amateurs. The device, due to the channel configuration, has no valid Amateur Radio application,” ARRL told the FCC. “While these transmitters are marked as ap-

propriate for amateur use, they cannot be used legally for Amateur Radio communications.” In the hands of unlicensed individuals, the transmitters could also cause interference to Amateur Radio communication in the 1.2 GHz band, ARRL contended.

The League said it’s obvious that the devices at issue lack proper FCC equipment authorization under FCC Part 15 rules, which require such low-power intentional radiators to be certified.

“Of most concern is the capability of the devices to cripple the operation of the [air traffic control] secondary target/transponder systems,” ARRL said. “These illegal transmitters represent a significant hazard to public safety in general and the safety of flight specifically.”

The surge in sales of drones has been dramatic. The FAA has predicted that combined commercial and hobby sales will increase from 2.5 million in 2016 to 7 million by 2020. - Read more (<http://bit.ly/2k7igY3>)

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 LeggettFrazier, Greenville, Joshua Roberson, Washington, and Arnis Udris, New Bern, all passed the Technician exam.

The new call signs will be up-

dated 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.

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 Jeansonne 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@arri.net

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K4ZYD

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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



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BARC Regular Meeting Minutes—January 10, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 19:33pm by President Meyer at the VFW hall on Mumford Rd., k4rok led the Pledge of Allegiance. Those in attendance are listed in the notebook: k4dkw; wa7fxb; kg4wez; k4kbb; w4ydy; w4chx; ke5n-cr; w4ej; k4rok; w4jnc; wa4slc; kn4aas; w4zra; kb4nsc.

After introductions, President Myer introduced Karl Bowman, w4chx, ARRL NC Section Manager for his program: What is the ARRL and why should we be League members. Karl's presentation contained so much information that it is impossible to reproduce it here but I, for one, found it both well-done and interesting. I will be paying my League dues in the near future. (An audio recording of Karl's presentation may be made available soon).

Following Karl's presentation the meeting took a short break. Prior to the break however, President Meyer said: "signup sheets for different topics for possible forums

Antenna work at VOA – 2/5/17

I'm both proud and humbled by the progress we made today. With the help of Doug, K4ROK, Peter, KG4WEZ, Dave Wood, W4EG, & his assistant, we successfully repaired, tested and completed the reestablishment of the VOA West rhombic, just in time for the NC QSOP! It was a spectacular team effort and an excellent example of what we can accomplish when we work together.

With the trailer upgrades, Oakwood School's station nearly done and VOA capability on the move, BARC is quickly positioning itself to become a world class operation with portable, base and world class

at Oakwood school are available. I also have a list of all the current ARRL books that we have in the club library. I also have put together a proposed activity schedule for 2017. This schedule shows the local hamfests as well as some other activities that the club might participate in throughout this coming year. Please look at this information and let me know what you think."

After the break President Meyer touched upon several things: a. spare tire and rim for the ARES trailer, approved; b. digital station in the trailer, under discussion; c. Oakwood school antenna project, work party scheduling difficulties, more information soon; d. a meeting is scheduled for Jan. 18th, Paul, Jeff, Terry, Doug and Dave with Allen Everett to discuss availability of resources; e. contacted the Jr. Women of Greenville, participation in the "touch-a-truck", Apr. 1st.; f. contacted the "dash-for-cash" representative, possible participation in December.

contest station capabilities. There still more work to do but the finish line is in sight. As with any effort, we still could use more help so we can finish all the needed work sooner and jointly begin to reap the benefits.

Friday, 2/10/17, the NWS will be at Oakwood to expose some kids to SKYWARN, and some BARC members will be there. Saturday, 2/11/17, we are looking to finally finish the antenna for Oakwood on Saturday, depending on the availability of the needed tow behind man lift.

As it takes a village, we can al-

The NCQSO Party is the last Sunday in February. We need to go out to site C to determine antenna needs, Doug and Jeff plan to go on Jan. 21st, more later.

The first "Show off your shack" activity will take place on Jan. 28 at w4ej's qth. If you have questions check the latest BARC roster for address, email and phone number.

VE report: Dave Langley, w4ydy reported that at the December VE session 11 people participated, 10 passed and 1 upgrade.

There was no Treasurer's report. There was no Secretary's report.

The next Board meeting will be on January 31st at 19:30pm at the offices of Monday & Monday, 105d East Victoria ct in Greenville.

The meeting was adjourned at 21:18pm. Respectfully Submitted Albert Sanchez, wa7fxb Secretary BARC

ways use more help and expertise. Please join us to help. You'll be glad you did!

Jeff Meyer, K4DKW, BARC President



NPOTA Participation Leads to Inaugural Communication Detail for National Park Service

Jeff Dahn, KB3ZUK, of Rockville, Maryland, activated every available NPOTA unit in the Washington, DC, area during the year-long National Parks on the Air (NPOTA) program. That, and his prior DC-area law enforcement experience, gave him a leg up to snag a gig during the presidential inauguration and the Women’s March on Washington as a radio operator for the National Park Service (NPS). Dahn, an ARRL member, spent 32 hours over the course of 3 days as a volunteer, operating park service radios from NPS Headquarters.

“I was invited to serve as a communications officer during the inauguration at the NPS Incident Command Post at their Headquarters facility as a direct result from participating in NPOTA,” Dahn told ARRL.

NPS Eastern Incident Management Team Communications Officer Gary Shipley, N5GQD, said Dahn was a quick study. “He handled announcements, dispatching, trouble calls, and requests for assistance on four radio nets with ease,” Shipley said. “He also handled equipment issues. He provided timely and valuable assistance and his participation was key to the success of the mission.”

In appreciation, NPS gave Dahn a certificate, a reflective service vest, scarf, and hat, plus he got to meet acting NPS Director Michael Reynolds.

Dahn said the climate-con-

trolled, access-restricted environment was a far cry from his first presidential inauguration experience on January 20, 1993, while serving as a law enforcement officer. “I remember standing at parade rest for what seemed like hours on the parade route between the crowd and the street, facing the crowd, not the procession while hungry and freezing,” he recounted.

On his second day, Saturday, January 21, Dahn was up very, very early, and involved with “coordinating planning with local point folks involved with the Women’s March on Washington (WMW). Just elected president of the HacDC Amateur Radio Club, Dahn was able to give the okay for his club’s W3HAC facility to serve as the net control station site for Amateur Radio operators helping those arriving for the march. “[T]hat facilitated another connection between the NPS Dispatch Center HQS Incident Command Post and the volunteer Amateur Radio NCS, who were both communicating and working with their stations in the field as the ‘boots on the ground’ on both sides of the equation!” Dahn observed.

- Read more (<http://bit.ly/2jM2PU6>)

**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 (20wpm)
- ◆ 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

Feb 11/12..... CQ WPX RTTY Contest	Mar 4/5..... ARRLSSB DX Contest
Feb 14..... Regular Meeting	Mar 14..... Regular Meeting
Feb 18/19.....ARRL CW DX Contest	Mar 25/26..... CQ WW SSB WPX Contest
Feb 21.....BARC VE Session	Mar 28..... Board Meeting
Feb 24/26..... CQ WW SSB 160M Contest	
Feb 26..... NC QSO Party	Regular Meeting - 2nd Tuesday @ 7:30 PM
Feb 28..... Board Meeting	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
W1VOA-W4AMC-W4UHS



FEB 2017
Next Meeting
Feb 21, 2017

To:



Ham Chatter
Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club
PO Box 8387
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