

# HAM CHATTER



Volume 52 Issue 02

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February 2018

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## ARRL Suggests FCC May Need to Intervene to Ensure Effective Antenna Rights

Commenting in response to an FCC Public Notice (DA 17-1180) released last month, ARRL addressed the extent of Amateur Radio's response to recent hurricane disasters and efforts needed to expand the use of Amateur Radio services when it comes to planning, testing, and providing emergency communication. The comments point out that Amateur Radio not only has been "far more than a hobby;" it is a ubiquitous, infrastructure-independent communication resource that's always ready to deploy effectively whenever and wherever needed. The League cited the remarks of former FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate, KK4INZ, that Amateur Radio "oftentimes is our last line of defense." ARRL raised three areas where action by the FCC could ensure and enhance the ability of radio amateurs to provide emergency communication, including the current Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2017 (S. 1534), now in the US Senate.

"HOAs can preclude amateur antennas in common areas. HOAs can enact reasonable written rules governing height, location, size and aesthetic impact of, and installation requirements for, outdoor antennas and support structures for amateur communications, but the

effective outdoor antenna requirement is paramount," ARRL noted in its comments. "The bill is currently before the Senate Commerce Committee. If, however, Congress is unable, as has been rumored, to pass any telecommunications legislation this term, it will be incumbent on the Commission to take the action on its own initiative that would be called for by this legislation. The future of Amateur Radio emergency communications is dependent on it."

ARRL asserted that it "is critical to have stations located at one's residence in order to regularly participate in disaster preparedness training exercises and drills."

Another "noteworthy and urgent need" that might call for some regulatory involvement by the FCC, ARRL said, "relates to an outdated regulation that limits data rates in HF Amateur communications, precluding certain digital emissions that have recently proven extremely important in Amateur Radio hurricane relief efforts."

Read more @ <http://bit.ly/2nJsmBi>

## Next Meeting February 13, 2018

The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club will have its regular meeting at 7:30 PM Tuesday, February 13, at VFW Post 7032 on 1108 Mumford Road in Greenville. It's BARC's birthday so there should be cake and ice cream. Matt McMahon, Disaster / Communication Specialist with Vidant Health will have the program. He also plans to bring out their communications truck and members will be able to tour it. There will be plenty of lighting.

All members, families and guests are invited to attend.

## BARC Board Meeting

The next board meeting will be Tuesday, Feb 27 at 7:30 PM at the Offices of Monday & Monday, (CPA), Suite D, East Victoria Court. All members invited.

## Brightleaf 2018 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



*Happy  
Birthday*

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

09 NC4RR Neal Sumrell  
11 KE5ACR Gary Coriell  
16 KG4WEZ Peter Van Houten  
17 K4ROK Doug Ferris  
19 N8RQR Joe Motola  
22 K4HMW Dan Wallace  
25 N4GVK Tom Forrest

Additions or corrections to KB4JOE

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 [jeffreymeyer55@gmail.com](mailto:jeffreymeyer55@gmail.com) (remove spaces in email address).

Thank you for your support and participation in BARC.

## *Well Wishes*

Thoughts and Prayers go out to the following:

Please inform Joe Jeansonne, KB4JOE, of any changes.

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## Next VE Session

Exams will be held on Tuesday, December 19, 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, KK4GC at [ve@w4amc.com](mailto: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!**



## In this Issue..

**Brightleaf 2018 Dues ..... 2**  
**Department of Defense Interoperability Communication Exercise Deemed a Success..... 4**  
**December 2017 BARC VE Session Results..... 4**  
**A Note to Members from ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR 6**  
**Florida Ham Radio Club Aids Homeless During Cold Snap ..... 7**  
**BARC - 2018 CALENDAR OF EVENTS ..... 8**



**Future programs for BARC meeting**

Peter Van Houten, KG4WEZ, BARC Second Vice President, has made up a couple of forms for members for emergency communications. One is a questionnaire for you capabilities in emergencies and the other is a telephone call tree. I'm sure he will talk about it at the February meeting. Peter also wants your suggestions for future programs. What programs would you like to see presented? Let Peter know.

**Field Day**

The 2018 Field Day chairman, Bernie, WA4MOK, will be looking for your suggestions and help for this year's Field Day in June. Some of the suggestions that are needed are antenna types and setups. Bernie will be doing the June club meeting program with Field Day plans. BARC Field Day will be June 23/24 at The Oakwood School.

**On The Air**

What kind of activities do you participate in when you are operating? There are many activities that include ragchewing, awards, contests, DX, traffic handling, award nets, emergency nets, county hunting, mobile, portable, QRP (not more than 5 watts), fox hunting (direction finding), ATV, SSTV, digital modes, AM, CW, vintage radios, space and more. Where does it end? I have enjoyed some of these activities.

For the first 40 years on the air, ninety percent of my time was ragchewing, just talking with friends. The rest of the time was working some DX and running phone patches. In the 1950's, many places only had Amateur Radio for communications with their families. I ran a lot of phone patches to Greenland and Antarctic to their families. Also ran some patches to the Pacific area from MARS stations operating there. It was usually between 1 and 3 AM here. I got off work about 1 AM so would operate for a couple of hours before going to bed. Many times I had to call the people on the phone long distance and that was expensive years before AT&T and others came out with the \$1 for 3 minutes rule. In today's money, it would probably be 30 to 40 dollars in the late 50's! I would call collect and tell the person receiving the call that it was the party the person's name at the other station. Never had one to refuse.

Once had a call from Guan to his wife in Shelby. The operator in Guam had a patch on his end also. Things were great at first but then they started arguing about money. Of course the operator on the other patch and I had to listen and wait for them to say "Over" so we could switch between transmit and receive. After the patch was over, the guy in Guam said he had never had a phone patch like that before. I said the same here. We both got a chuckle out of it. It's one of those things you don't forget.

I haven't run a phone patch in years. That is an activity that I haven't heard on the air for years. The last time was over 30

years ago when I lived in Western NC. Ran a few patches to a minister in Costa Rica. I still have 3 phone patches, 2 that I built and the other is a Collins in the 312B-5 unit. It contains a VFO for the KWM-2, a power meter and the phone patch. Anyone interested in buying it?

After 40 years and retirement, had more time so decided to get some awards and operate in contests. Didn't apply until a few years later but got the WAC, WAS and DXCC. Have since got many other awards and have a 2 inch notebook and a 3 inch notebook full now.

The ARRL International Grid Chase is a year-long operating event. Contact as many stations in as many grids as possible. Each month starts over again there will probably be certificate available for that at the end of the event. In January, several stations are active in the event, including some BARC members. Mike, KM4OLT, Richard, W4JNC, and I are active. Also former BARC member, Rick, W4UEF, is very active. Have also worked NZ4DX in Pitt County a few times. May be others in Pitt but I have not heard them. Most of the grid activity is on the FT8 mode. Pitt County is in Grid FM15.

Go to <https://www.pskreporter.info/pskmap.html> and you can see most of the station activity on the internet. Hover over the marker at the station location and you will see info on the station, such as grid, state, mode, frequency and antenna info if the operator had entered it. - **W4YDY**



**Department of Defense Interoperability Communication Exercise****Deemed a Success**

A November 2017 Department of Defense (DoD)-sponsored communications interoperability exercise involving Amateur Radio was a success, according to information received recently from US Army Military Auxiliary Radio System (MARS) Program Manager Paul English, WD8DBY. The November 4-6 drill, which focused on interoperability between DOD elements including MARS, other federal agencies, and the Amateur Radio community, simulated a coronal mass ejection (CME) event. Army and Air Force MARS organizations worked in conjunction with the Amateur Radio community, primarily on the 60-meter interoperability channels as well as on HF NVIS frequencies and local VHF and UHF, non-Internet linked Amateur Radio repeaters.

“Amateur Radio support for these DOD interoperability exercises continues to grow,” English said.

The Amateur Radio portion of the exercise kicked off with a high-power information broadcast on 60-meter channel 1 (5,330.5 kHz) from a military station on the east coast and the Fort Huachuca HF gateway station in Arizona. The high-power broadcast provided basic exercise information and requested that amateur stations make contact with MARS stations on 60 meters and provide county-by-county status reports for the 3,143 US counties and county

equivalents, in order to gain situational awareness and to determine the extent of impact of the scenario. Radio amateurs also were given the opportunity to submit a reception report and receive a QSL card.

New for this exercise, planners divided the continental US geographically and assigned each region to one 60-meter channel, in order to make more efficient use of all five channels. Planners roughly divided the US into northeast, southeast, northwest, southwest, and central regions. Also new for this exercise, military planners incorporated a day-time informational broadcast on a DOD frequency, 13,483.5 kHz USB. The purpose of that broadcast was to extend the exercise outreach during the day to the amateur community and to provide exercise updates.

English said that of the 738 broadcast reception reports received, 494, or 67%, of them were from the 60-meter broadcast while the remaining 244 reports were for the 13-MHz broadcast. The 60-meter broadcasts were received by stations in Canada, Spain, and Switzerland, and reception reports came from several members of the Short-Wave Listening (SWL) community.

Nearly 2,000 Amateur Radio stations took part in the exercise, submitting 3,025 county status reports, nearly 1,300 of them unique. QSL cards for

amateurs and SWLs who participated in this exercise are being processed and will be mailed in January.

“Leaders from the supported DOD headquarters as well as the chiefs of both the Army and Air Force MARS programs appreciated the nearly 2,000 Amateur Radio stations that trained during this exercise,” English said. — Thanks to US Army MARS Program Manager Paul English, WD8DBY, and The ARRL ARES E-Letter

Read more @ <http://bit.ly/2EKSfYJ>

**December 2017 BARC VE Session Results**

On the December 19, 2017 BARC VE session, two candidates upgraded and three passed the Technician Amateur Radio exam.

Byron Johnson, **KE4DDE**, Ayden, NC, upgraded to Amateur Extra Class license and James Lowe, **KN4GWZ**, Grimesland, NC, upgraded to General. Samuel Antolick, age 12, **KN4IRI**, Robert Antolick, **KN4IRJ**, Wil-

son, and Hgriberto BeceraBravo, **KN4IRK**, Jacksonville, NC, all passed the Technician exams. Samuel got the best results missing only one question! The FCC upgraded **KE4DDE** and **KN4GWZ** and new call signs were assigned on December 28, 2017. Congratulations to all.

The VE's that attended were VE Liaison Gary Coriell, KK4GC, Morris Lewis, AK4MU, Al Mullis, K4GOE, and Dave Langley, W4YDY.

The next  
BARC VE  
session is  
scheduled for  
Feb 20, 2018

# Ham Ads

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**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](mailto:hamchatter@w4amc.com)(no spaces)**

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## **A Note to Members from ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR**

In the last few weeks, the ARRL's Board of Directors has been the subject of an organized misinformation campaign. It is being orchestrated by a group of hams, some of whom are well-intentioned but have been misled. This effort, which consists of a series of mischaracterizations, initially dealt with (1) the ARRL Board's censure of an ARRL Director, and (2) some proposed revisions to ARRL's Articles of Association and Bylaws that are likely to be considered at the upcoming ARRL Board meeting and which were circulated by a member of the Board. None of the proposed Article and Bylaw changes has yet been addressed by the Board of Directors. More recently, other equally erroneous and false statements have been made with respect to completely unrelated issues, in an effort to draw into question ARRL's decision-making processes. The principal suggestion is that ARRL operates under some "cloak of secrecy." The criticism is unfair and undeserved.

ARRL's representative sys-

tem of governance, which has worked exceptionally well in the advocacy and promotion of Amateur Radio and the interests of ARRL members for more than 100 years, is unchanged. And the legislative and other advocacy positions currently being pursued are critical to the long-term survivability of the Amateur Radio Service.

The ARRL Board does seek thoughtful, informed input on policy issues concerning Amateur Radio from its roughly 150,000 members. ARRL's governance structure provides that regionally elected, volunteer directors will represent the interests of the members in their respective Divisions, working collectively and collegially within our Board to make policy and to advocate their constituents' interests. ARRL's Board members hold cabinet meetings and forums at hamfests and conventions, and they staff ARRL booths at hamfests and conventions in order to find out what interests and concerns you have as ARRL members. They take this feedback from you, and they

come to Board meetings twice a year to make policy for the organization. They work together collegially to develop the best policy decisions. This structure presumes that the Board's collective wisdom is far greater than that of any one Board member, and each Board member is obligated by our Articles and Bylaws to come to meetings with a good idea of what the members need and what is best for Amateur Radio as a whole.

As is the case with most large, national non-profit associations, ARRL Board meetings are not open to the public. It has always been that way, as a matter of necessity. That is because, at all such meetings, confidential issues such as spectrum protection, employee compensation, financial information, and FCC submissions are candidly discussed, and the members' interests at those meetings are advocated by the Directors on a representative basis.

Read more @ <http://bit.ly/2siBfGR>

**Florida Ham Radio Club Aids Homeless During Cold Snap**

Uncharacteristically cold weather in east-central Florida in early January prompted members of the North Brevard Amateur Radio Club (K4NBR) to assist the area's homeless. The New Year began with a bitter cold front descending upon Central Florida, bringing temperatures that hovered around freezing. Such conditions can be especially concerning for those lacking regular shelter from the elements. NBARC members Ricky DeLuco, K4JTT; Robert Ortiz, KJ4VEH; William Klosowski, K4SVT, and Michael Ellixon, KE4MWZ, set out in their own vehicles, searching the city of Titusville for homeless residents. For the next two evenings, and using Amateur Radio as communications, the group worked in the cold, wet weather for more than 12 hours, logging some 120 miles on the roads around Titusville.

The Disabled American Veteran Center in Titusville had opened its doors as a cold weather shelter and offered a warm place to sleep and eat. The ham radio group alerted local law enforcement, so they were aware of the effort and in the hope that on-duty officers also might reach out. The group was able to locate five homeless individuals on its first evening tour of the town and provide them with transportation out of the cold. Local police also contacted the team to help and to provide transportation for other homeless individuals located by on-duty officers.

One additional homeless person located late on the first night had a need for immediate medical attention and was transported to a local hospital.

Within the ARRL Southern Florida Section, NBARC is an ARRL-affiliated community service organization and is involved in several area events. It also provides back-up communication for Parrish Hospital, as needed. — Thanks to Ricky DeLuco, K4JTT

Read more @ <http://bit.ly/2nQRCom>

**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 - 2018 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

UKEICC 80M .....Feb 07  
 Asia Pacific Sprint CW .....Feb 10  
 Balkan HF .....Feb 11  
 Club Meeting .....Feb 13  
 Oakwood Topics .....Feb 17  
 ARRL Int DX CW .....Feb 17  
 VE .....Feb 20  
 CQ 160M SSB .....Feb 23  
 REF SSB .....Feb 24  
 UBA DX CW .....Feb 24  
 NC QSO Party 2018 .....Feb 25  
 Board Meeting .....Feb 27  
 UKEICC 80M .....Feb 28  
 ARRL Int DX SSB ..... Mar 03  
 Club Meeting ..... Mar 13  
 Russian DX ..... Mar 17  
 Oakwood Topics ..... Mar 17  
 CQ WW WPX SSB ..... Mar 24  
 Board Meeting ..... Mar 27  
 UK/EI DX CW ..... Mar 31  
 SARL 80M QSOP ..... Apr 05  
 SP DX ..... Apr 07  
 Club Meeting ..... Apr 10  
 JIDX CW ..... Apr 14  
 Oakwood Topics ..... Apr 14

VE ..... Apr 17  
 Holyland DX ..... Apr 20  
 ES OPEN HF ..... Apr 21  
 CQMM DX ..... Apr 21  
 YU DX ..... Apr 21  
 Board Meeting ..... Apr 24  
 ARI Intl DX ..... May 05  
 CQ-M Intl DX ..... May 12  
 Club Meeting ..... May 08  
 Oakwood Topics ..... May 12  
 Board Meeting ..... May 22  
 CQ WW WPX CW ..... May 26  
 Asia Pacific Sprint SSB ..... Jun 09  
 GACW WWSA DX CW ...Jun 09  
 Club Meeting .....Jun 12  
 Oakwood Topics .....Jun 16  
 All Asian DX CW .....Jun 16  
 VE .....Jun 19  
 ARRL Field Day .....Jun 23  
 Board Meeting .....Jun 26  
 RAC Canada ..... Jul 01  
 Marconi HF ..... Jul 07  
 Club Meeting ..... Jul 10  
 Oakwood Topics ..... Jul 14  
 IARU HF ..... Jul 14

Jakarta DX 40M ..... Jul 21  
 Board Meeting ..... Jul 24  
 RSGB IOTA ..... Jul 28  
 European HF .....Aug 04  
 Southern Africa HF SSB ..Aug 05  
 WAE DX CW .....Aug 11  
 Club Meeting .....Aug 14  
 Oakwood Topics .....Aug 16  
 NA QSOP SSB .....Aug 18  
 VE .....Aug 21  
 YO DX HF .....Aug 25  
 SARL HF CW .....Aug 26  
 Board Meeting .....Aug 28  
 All Asian DX SSB ..... Sept 01  
 WAE DX SSB ..... Sept 08  
 Club Meeting ..... Sept 11  
 Oakwood Topics ..... Sept 15  
 Scandinavian CW ..... Sept 15  
 UK/EI SSB ..... Sept 22  
 Board Meeting ..... Sept 25  
 SARL 80M ..... Oct 04  
 Oceania SX SSB ..... Oct 06  
 Club Meeting ..... Oct 09  
 Oakwood Topics ..... Oct 13  
 Oceania DX CW ..... Oct 13

VE ..... Oct 16  
 Asia Pacific CW ..... Oct 21  
 CQWW SSB ..... Oct 27  
 Board Meeting ..... Oct 23  
 Club Meeting ..... Nov 13  
 Oakwood Topics ..... Nov 17  
 Board Meeting ..... Nov 27  
 Club Meeting ..... Dec 11  
 Oakwood Topics ..... Dec 15  
 VE ..... Dec 18  
 Board Meeting ..... Dec 25

To:



**February 2018**  
**Next Meeting**  
**Feb 13, 2018**



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