



Ham Chatter



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Meet the BARC Members

Paul Fletcher, KS4YF



The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club will have its monthly meeting on June 10, at 7:30 PM at St. Peter's School on 4th Street. Field Day plans will be discussed. All members and guests are invited to attend. The next board meeting will be June 26 at 7:30 PM at St. Peter's School. All members are invited to attend.



Some Thoughts on Field Day - KQ2V

This year, the annual battle with wires and cables that is so much part of what is euphemistically called wireless is scheduled to be perpetrated on the Amateur Community the last week end of June. The weekend dates are June 28 and June 29, 1997.

For the uninitiated, here is an opportunity to learn some of the intricacies of assembling a tower or a three element yagi or a dipole or to learn perhaps how a trap works or why it's good to stop a generator before you add gas. In other words, it's a great opportunity to learn about some of the realities of our fascinating hobby. It's also an opportunity to operate on some bands that you may not have yet, to learn why an 80 meter dipole will work on 20 or a 40 meter dipole can also work on 15 and if you are lucky, to be on the receiving end of a mini pileup at least for a few minutes.

For the initiated, here is an

Paul Fletcher, KS4YF, is the first victim for a new column that we hope to have every month. It is fitting that all club members meet the officers first, so he has the honor since he is the President of BARC. Paul moved to Greenville in 1979 to work at the ECU School of Medicine. He is originally from Mewborn's Crossroads in Lenoir County near the Kinston Regional Airport.

Paul became interested in Amateur Radio when he was a Cub Scout. He built a crystal set and as a Boy Scout, he learned the Morse Code. He became a member of the Kinston Amateur Radio Club in 1957 but didn't get his license at that time. His son Paul III became interested at a similar age, so Paul encouraged him to get his license. Paul III is KE4YOE. Paul had to put up or shut up so he was soon licensed as a Tech Plus on April 28, 1995, with the support of coworkers Lily, KE4UGD and Bob, KE4UGC. He received the call KE4ZMU. Tom, KD4AFH, and other

BARC members provided more support. He upgraded to Advanced Class in May 1995 and received the call he now holds, KS4YF. The new call was effective June 2, 1995.

Tom, KD4AFH, loaned Paul an Atlas 350XL transceiver, and he uses it with a Dentron 1000B amplifier, MFJ tuner and G5RV antenna. He recently purchased a Mosley TA-33 Jr. from Sandy, KF4ZA, and he has a tilt-up tower not yet installed. Sounds like an antenna party coming up soon! He has a Kenwood TH-79, 2 meter and 440 HT and a Kenwood TS-700 2 meter transceiver from Mac, WO4S.

Enjoying both HF and VHF activities, Paul primarily operates phone but expects to incorporate CW when he obtains a keyer. He plans to upgrade to Extra Class but wants to gain significant on the air experience sufficient to past the code test at plus 20 wpm through HF CW QSO's. His 10-10 number is 68454 and he has Springbok certification on 10 meters. He tries to meet the Tar Heel Emergency Net semi-regularly (3923 kHz, nightly 7:30 P.M.); the RV Net

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President's Corner - Paul, KS4YF

From the Desk of the President-

Field Day is almost here again! Hope plenty of BARC members helped to prepare the trailer for Field Day 1997. I could not because I was occupied with final preparation of a grant application as a part of my research work at the School of Medicine. In fact, I worked through the weekend before, as well.

Tomorrow, I will drive to Bethesda, MD to deliver it to the National Institutes of Health where we hope that it will be favorably

reviewed so that our work will be funded again, beginning NEXT April! I have been ably assisted by BARC members Lily Fainter,

KE4UGD, my wife Maryann (not yet licensed), and Paul III, KE4YOE, will ride with me to Maryland and back - to man the radio and keep me company for the long trip.

Meanwhile, we canceled our regularly scheduled Executive Committee meeting last Thursday (5/29/97) so that we could meet in conjunction with the Field Day committee Sunday night, June 7. Besides, most of the Executive Committee is involved with that committee, too. We expect to concentrate on Field Day at our June 10 regular BARC meeting. Please bring your schedules with you because we need to sign members, guests, alumni, and

visitors alike to provide operators, loggers, site set-up, take-down, meals, and a Blue Million details for our Carolina East Mall site. If you don't call on us we're likely going to call on you, so get ready, join un, roll up your sleeves, and lean on the Club rigs: "Whiskey-Four-Alpha-Mike-Charlie; Field Day - Two Alpha, North Carolina!" That's all there is to it - just be there and write down who answers and what, where, and when! If you are CW proficient, we especially need you as CW ranks are Thin! Also, if you are Novice, Novice-Tech, or Tech+, we need you to help with

the Novice Station, even if you don't know a lick we'll find a place for you - you will make a difference! Let's make this Field Day

Let's make this Field Day a special occasion - especially for our longest / older / and past members - we want them to join us and share the spotlight.

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What we really need is GOOD WEATHER! Perhaps we could use some cooler than usual days - just like most of our spring, but somehow we could pay a heavy price for these cooler than usual days and nights with the end of JUNE - payback? Let's hope not! Anyway - let's hope for the best, prepare for the worst, and BE THERE! See you on the AIR - Remember our Monday Night BARC Ragchew Net - 147.09 MHz / W4GDF Repeater, 2000 Hours, each Monday night. Then the ARES Net at 2100 Hours.

FCC Chairman Resigns

At a press conference May 27, FCC Chairman Reed Hundt announced that he is resigning from the FCC. He will stay a while longer but did not commit to staying until a successor is named. Hundt did not elaborate on his future plans.

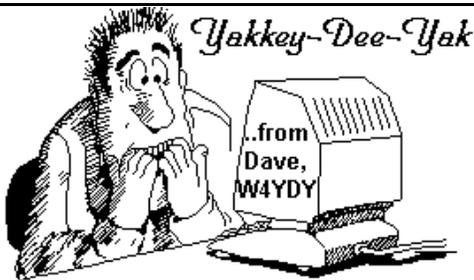
Meanwhile, President Clinton has nominated Democrat William Kennard and Republican Harold Furchtgott-Roth to fill vacancies on the five-member Commission. Kennard is now the FCC's general counsel. Furchtgott-Roth--Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott's pick for the Republican FCC slot--is now chief economist for the House Commerce Committee. Both men are 40. via ARRL Online

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Hurricane Hunter Aircraft Frequencies

- 04724.0 kHz USB Hurricane hunter aircraft - GHFS
- 06739.0 kHz USB Hurricane hunter aircraft - GHFS guarded by MacDill & Ascension
- 08968.0 kHz USB Hurricane hunter aircraft - GHFS
- 08992.0 kHz USB Hurricane hunter aircraft - GHFS guarded by MacDill & Ascension
- 11175.0 kHz USB Hurricane hunter aircraft - GHFS guarded by MacDill & Ascension
- 13200.0 kHz USB Hurricane hunter aircraft - GHFS
- 15016.0 kHz USB Hurricane hunter aircraft - GHFS guarded by MacDill & Ascension
- 17976.0 kHz USB Hurricane hunter aircraft - GHFS



Here I go again! I was asked to edit the BARC Ham Chatter and before I knew it, I must have said "Yes" and it was announced. Ken, KE4RQF, did a fine job with the newsletter and I hope I can keep it up. It will depend on input from all members of the club.

This is not my newsletter. It is the club newsletter and all members are the club. Stories from members about their experiences with Amateur Radio and any activities about the club would help generate more local interest. Someone could write articles about activities of the club that they were involved in. A good example is in last months Ham Chatter. Murry, KF4FQB, wrote a nice piece about the Greenville International Festival. Anyone having any ideas on improvements, changes or things they would like to see in the newsletters, let me know. We will do our best to fulfill those wishes.

I would like to have an Associate Editor. I have a few ideas for an assistant such as having a monthly feature written by an assistant editor. Also, in case I wasn't able to get a newsletter out due to unforeseen circumstances, (vacations, etc.) they could help with getting out the newsletter.

I would prefer articles, maybe pictures and other things that could be used in the newsletter via email or floppy disk. I use WordPerfect 7 for word processing and it will convert most any other word processor format. The quickest format is just plain text that can be used in Notepad or similar programs. But if it is just written on paper, I can use that. It just takes longer for me to type it up and add my typing mistakes! I won't

complain if I can just get input from the members. My email address is w4ydy@sprintmail.com and it is also on the front of the newsletter.

Back in 1969, I helped organize a new club in Raleigh, the RARS. When I wasn't looking, I was appointed a temporary editor for the RARS News. That temporary position lasted five 1/4 years! The newsletter was very successful, not because of me, but because of all the people that came to my aid. There were an Associate Editor, a Technical Editor and many contributions from club members. All I had to do was to get the information in on time to the typist and printer.

By 1974, six hundred copies were printed each month. One hundred plus were mailed to members, some were sent to subscribers, some were exchanged with other newsletter editors, some went to the ARRL officers and the rest were placed for the public to pick up. We had them placed in the Radio Shack and other electronic stores in Raleigh and Cary.

Stories from members about their experiences with Amateur Radio and any activities about the club would help generate more local interest.

This helped bring new members to the club. Maybe we could place some in local electronic stores if the club wants to pay for extra copies. Ads were sold to help offset the cost. It's something for club members to think about.

The RARS News won several awards in the Amateur Radio News Service national contests. It also won the Roanoke Division award in 1971 for Outstanding Radio Club Journal. Lets hope Ham Chatter will be awarded by the members of the Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club with their article contributions, assistance and support.

When I was the editor of the RARS News, I became good friends with Bob Knapp, K4OMW, the editor of Ham

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FCC ISSUES NEW FORM 610; OLD VERSIONS STILL VALID

The FCC has just released a new Form 610, dated March 1997, that -- among other minor changes -- now includes a space for your Internet address. The new form is available via the FCC's Internet site (<http://www.fcc.gov>) and via the FCC's fax-on-demand service (202-418-0177; to obtain Form 610, the form number to request is "000610;" Form 610A is "006101;" Form 610B is "006102;" and Form 610V is "006108." Form 159, of interest to some vanity filers, is "000159").

The form is much the same as the previous Form 610, dated March, 1995, except that item 3A asking for the applicant's "Internet Address" is included on the same line as the street address. The environmental impact question, formerly item 6, has instead become a statement in the applicant certification section where the applicant certifies that "the construction of the station would *not* be an action which is likely to have a significant environmental effect (see the Commission's Rules 47 CFR Sections 1.1301-1.1319 and 97.13a)." The former item 7 has become item 6 on the new Form 610.

According to staff members at the Gettysburg FCC office, the FCC will continue to accept any of the three Forms 610 (dated November 1993, March 1995 and March 1997) until further notice. - via *The ARRL Letter Online*

One Liner....

Daddy, why doesn't this magnet pick up this floppy disk? - Net-pickin's by Mark Levy-N9RXF NSRC TRANSMITTER - via ARNS

BARC Welcomes New Member and License

Congratulations to Joyce Griswell for receiving her Technician license on April 23. Her new call is KF4RBJ. Joyce passed the exam at the BARC VE session held on April 18. She is associated with Radio Shack in the Plaza Mall. She joined the Brightleaf ARC at the May meeting. We all welcome her to the club and wish her well on her upgrading path to the Extra Class license. - *WAYDY*

Happy Birthday!

Electron is 100, transistor is 50: Scientists recently marked the 100th anniversary of the 1897 presentation before the British Royal Academy of Sciences of a paper by physicist J. J. Thompson that first recognized the existence of the electron. In his presentation, Thompson described how he discovered, experimentally, that cathode rays were negatively charged particles which he dubbed electrons. The transistor turns 50 years old this year. It was invented by Bell Labs (now Lucent Technologies) in December, 1947. It costs one million times less to make a transistor today than it did 30 years ago. - *Wired News/Jim Fitton, W1FMR - via The ARRL Letter Online*

Ken Proffitt, KE4RQF, Graduates from PCC



Ken Proffitt, KE4RQF, previous editor of *Ham Chatter*, graduated from Pitt Community College on May 28, 1997 at graduation ceremonies held on the East Carolina University campus at Wright Auditorium. He will be moving to Upper East Tennessee in June to finish Mathematics and Physics degrees at East Tennessee State University on a mathematics scholarship.

If you are in the area of Upper East Tennessee, Ken invites you to visit with him and the Unicoi Amateur Radio Society. He will probably be the new editor of their newsletter. He did an excellent job with the *Ham Chatter* while going to school and working at the same time.

Ken received his Technician license in 1994 with the encouragement of some Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club members and other Amateur Radio operators in the area. All BARC members wish to congratulate him on his graduation from PCC and good luck in his future studies. - *WAYDY*

DAYTON HAMVENTION AND LEAGUE JOIN FORCES FOR YEAR 2000 ARRL CONVENTION

Dayton's annual Hamvention will be the host site for the ARRL national convention in the year 2000. The Dayton Hamvention is the nation's largest single Amateur Radio event, attracting more than 30,000 participants to Dayton, Ohio, each year. The year 2000 will be the first time that the ARRL and the Dayton Amateur Radio Association (DARA), sponsors of the Hamvention, will combine their talents for this yearly event. A formal announcement was made May 16 in Dayton as the 1997 Hamvention opened its doors. The Hamvention got its start as The Southwestern Ohio Ham-vention in 1952.

"The number of enthusiasts Dayton attracts from around the United States and from around the world, combined with the quality of the event, is unparalleled," said ARRL Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ. "Dayton, Ohio, is the natural site for our national convention, and we are delighted to be working with members of DARA and Hamvention officials in this combined effort to launch Amateur Radio into the 21st century."

In addition to the more than

30,000 Hamvention attendees, the three-day event brings together thousands of flea market vendors, ham radio and electronic equipment manufacturers and other exhibitors. As its contribution to the event, the League will bring additional Amateur Radio programs, national-level radio awards and increased publicity in QST.

ARRL Great Lakes Division Director George Race, WB8BGY, said he was pleased that the League and DARA would be working together "to assure the future of Amateur Radio as we enter the 21st century."

"Over the years, Amateur Radio operators have been instrumental in the development of most of our electronic technology," he said. "Amateur Radio has sparked the imagination of young and old alike, leading them to become teachers, engineers and even astronauts. The ARRL and Dayton Hamvention working together, will give those who attend a glimpse at what lies ahead in technology and how they can be a part of it." --Jennifer Gagne, N1TDY - *via The ARRL Letter Online*

Wishing A Speedy Recovery

5/31/97 - Spoke to Jim Hecker, KD4BVX, and in good spirits tonight. Jim noted, he doesn't get out much now-a-days, but will hopefully return to the meetings soon. He still would enjoy hearing from fellow Hams. Phone at 756-0500. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Jim for a speedy recovery.

Juanita, KE4JWK

Meet the BARC Members - Paul Fletcher, KS4YF

(Continued from page 1)

(7.233.3 MHz on Sat. 8:00 A.M.), and even the YL Net (14.320 MHz Sat. mornings). The nets provide him with a chance to QSO with his fiends. He enjoys DX on 20 meters and hopes to have WAS soon. He has trouble getting QSL cards like many others. After he purchases his own transceiver, he wants to gain packet and related digital capabilities on HF and VHF.

Paul made the rounds at universities by going to Virginia Tech (B. S., 1964), UNC-G (MA, 1967), Vanderbilt Univ. (Ph.D., 1971). Was that 'Doc' I heard on the air one day! He has been on the ECU School of Medicine Faculty in Biochemical Research and Teaching since 1979. Previous to that, he was on the University Faculty at The Rockefeller University 1971 to 1974 and then the Yale University Medical School 1974 to 1979.

Paul married Maryann Dickey in New York, NY in 1973 and a harmonic (Paul III, KE4YOE) came along in 1976. She works with Paul in the lab at the ECU School of Medicine where she is a Research Associate. Maryann is an expert cell biologist who is essential to research on the function of pancreatic secretion, both normal and in disease. Maryann and Lily, KE4UGD, operate his lab. Wonder how much work gets done

when Amateur Radio is the conversation in that lab?

Paul III, KE4YOE, will begin his junior year at NCSU School of Design where he is advancing toward a degree in Architecture and he expects to graduate in June 2000.

When Paul became BARC President in 1996, he said he had to learn much about BARC "on-the-fly." He said, "Organizing and achieving efficient club structure for a volunteer organization is quite challenging, but would be impossible without the interest and dedication of all officers and most BARC members." He enjoys working with club members on BARC projects, especially Field Day. "I have some pride in our associated ARES communications events related to the recent hurricanes Bertha and Fran," he said. Paul is on his second and last term as President of BARC. Officers of the club are limited to 2 terms but may be elected again after a hiatus.

If all BARC members put in as much work and dedication as Paul, there is no telling how far this club would go. When it comes to getting volunteers for future BARC projects, Paul will be sure to do his share. - *W4YDY*

REVISED VANITY CALL SIGN ELECTRONIC APPLICATION AVAILABLE

On May 19, 1997, a revised version of the electronic Amateur Station Vanity Call Sign Request form (FCC Form 610-V) was made available on the Internet at <http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/amradsrv.html>. Under "Amateur Station Vanity Call Sign System" choose "Interactive Vanity Call Sign Application." This version allows a user to file multiple applications using one FCC Form 159 (Remittance Advice), thus permitting several applicants to file vanity applications at the same time and combine their fee payments. The fee will calculate and preprint on the FCC Form 159, depending on the number of applications submitted. Detailed instructions are available by clicking on the item number on the Internet form. Previously, applicants had to complete a separate FCC Form 159 for each application submitted electronically.

Electronic payment is not yet available, and applicants must mail a completed FCC Form 159 with payment to FCC, Box 358994, Pittsburgh, PA 15251-5994, immediately after submitting any electronic application(s).

For technical assistance, contact the FCC Technical Support Group, 202-414-1250. For general questions regarding the application or fee, call the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Consumer Assistance staff, 800-322-1117. --FCC - *via The ARRL Letter Online*

ARRL DXCC Status Report

The DXCC desk reports it is currently mailing applications received May 7. There are seven applications received prior to that time. As of May 23, DXCC was processing work received on May 12, 1997. As of May 19, DXCC had processed 60 new applications or endorsements (4509 QSLs) and had 158 new applications or endorsements pending (21,376 QSLs). *via ARRL Online*

Associate Editor Wanted

Do we have any volunteers? It would be great if someone who likes to write would be willing to help with the material in the Ham Chatter. The primary job would be to interview members of the club and write for a monthly feature called *Meet the BARC Members*. The above article is my first attempt at such an endeavor. I hope Paul doesn't hold it against me too much. If a color or B&W picture could be obtained, I can transfer it to the newsletter. The best pictures would be of the member at his or her Amateur Radio station. I can take a video and transfer that to the newsletter. Any help with reporting club activities would be a plus. - *W4YDY*

Vanity update: On May 20, the FCC's Gettysburg office processed vanity call sign applications received between April 1 and May 14. Of the 919 applications, 456 resulted in new call signs and 463 wound up in the work in process (WIPs) stack for special handling. The FCC has not indicated when vanity Gate 3 for Advanced Class operators will open. - *via The ARRL Letter Online*



**Bernie, WA4MOK,
Directs Assembly of
Beam at 1996 Field
Day.**

Some Thoughts on Field Day

(Continued from page 1)

opportunity to share your secrets: which coax is the best, what is a dB and how does it leak out of bad coax. It's also a time for great fishing stories, how you worked Greece from your mobile at the bottom of the sunspot cycle or how you worked those ZL's one morning on 160. For

We need operators and help assembling the site as well as help disassembling on Sunday. We need help cooking and we need help logging. In other words we need you.

both groups it's a time of fun and an opportunity to build up the fraternal and sororal sense of our hobby.

All you need to do is come out and participate. Your fellow club members have been working diligently to make this year's field day a successful and fun activity for us all. The field day sub committee has met recently and informs us that the site has been chosen behind Sears at the

East Carolina Mall; the publicity for the event is in the planning stages; the dinner arrangements are nearing completion with a meal close to a real ham's heart; the slaw is ready and the potato salad is on its way; the antennas are planned and the coax shined up; the stations are secured. The club will be running 2A with a novice- tech station and the generators are primed. All we need is you and your support.

So come on out and volunteer. We need operators and help assembling the site as well as help disassembling on Sunday. We need help cooking and we need help logging. In other words we need you. Please mark your calendars, sharpen your skills, work up a sweat, swat some mosquitoes, eat some pig, work some stations, trip on a guy wire, drink some coffee and come on out to this year's field day. It will be a great experience for us all.

This year's Field Day Committee is headed by Bob Fainter, KE4UGC, and Brother Simon, KQ2V. Other members include Juanita Humbles, KE4JWK, Byron Highland, KA4KGZ, Murray Merner, KF4FQB,

Yakkey-Dee-Yak

(Continued from page 3)

Chatter. He even wrote some articles for me to put in the RARS News about the activities of the Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club. I always enjoyed seeing him at hamfests and picnics and his occasional visits to the RARS meetings in Raleigh. I'm not sure, but I believe he was the first editor for BARC. From one article that Bob sent me, I do know the Jack Kear, K4MI, was the editor in 1973. The only other editors I remember are Mike Langley, KD4MTT, and Ken Proffitt, KE4RQF. I just hope I can do as well.

This is my first attempt at laying a newsletter out. If my layout attempts are any good at all, most of the credit will have to go to my computer and the publishing programs that make my mess look halfway decent. - W4YDY



Field Day Preparations and BARC Trailer Maintenance

On May 31, several Brightleaf Amateur Radio Members got together at Mike Langley's, KD4MTT, to work on the BARC Trailer and make preparations for Field Day on June 28-29. Club members that gathered for the much needed maintenance and preparations were Murry Merner, KF4FQB, Byron Highland, KA4KGZ, Bernie Nobles, WA4MOK, Mike Langley, KD4MTT, Bill Dawson, WA4SLC, Brother Simon Jaworski, KQ2V and Dave Langley, W4YDY. The trailer was cleaned and lights were checked out and repaired, storage compartments cleaned and supplies were properly stored. Antenna cables were inventoried, checked and cleaned getting them ready for Field Day.

For those that didn't show up for the fun and fellowship, you missed a treat. Thanks to Mike and his wife,



Linda, for a great lunch for the hard working crew. They served BBQ chicken, baked beans, rolls, tea and topped it off with chocolate cup cakes! Now that was worth the gathering. As you can see from the picture, everyone was enjoying it very much. Don't you wish you were there! - W4YDY

ARLS016: Mike Foale, KB5UAC, aboard and active From Mir

ZCZC AS16
QST de W1AW
Space Bulletin 016 ARLS016
From ARRL Headquarters
Newington, CT May 30, 1997
To all radio amateurs
SB SPACE ARL ARLS016

Ham-astronaut Mike Foale, KB5UAC, who swapped places with Jerry Linenger, KC5HBR, aboard the Russian Mir space station in mid-May, already is making good on his promise to keep Mir active on the ham bands. Foale is scheduled to spend more than four months on the space station before returning to Earth in September.

Al Lark, KD4SFF, of Greenville, South Carolina, was among the first US stations to snag a QSO with Foale (who was using ROMIR at the time). During a Memorial Day contact, KD4SFF got a chance to try out a few Russian phrases during the QSO. The Mir frequencies are 145.800 MHz (downlink) and 145.200 MHz (uplink).

Foale has FCC permission to speak with unlicensed third parties via ham radio during his stay on Mir. Foale also has permission to use the German Space Amateur Funk EXperiment (SAFEX) equipment on Mir in addition to the 2-meter gear.

Dave Larsen, N6CO, is the US Mir QSL manager for contacts made with Mir crew members. QSL cards must include date, time, and mode of contact. He does not handle cards for SWL reports. To confirm contacts with the Mir packet radio personal message system (PMS), include the message number issued by the PMS on your QSL. Send QSLs along with a business-size, self-addressed, stamped envelope to: David G. Larsen, N6CO, Box 1501, Pine Grove, CA 95665 USA. For further details, get in touch with Larsen via e-mail at docvolcano.net.

NNNN
/EX - via ARRL

Congress acts to protect volunteers

From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT May 30, 1997
To all radio amateurs

SB QST ARL ARLB028
ARLB028 Congress acts to protect volunteers

The US House and Senate have passed companion bills aimed at shielding volunteers from lawsuits resulting from their activities as volunteers. The Senate has passed S 544, and the House has passed a companion bill, HR 911, each described as "The Volunteer Protection Act of 1997." The Senate is expected to adopt the House version of the bill and send to President Clinton for signature.

As a result, volunteers of nonprofit organizations and government entities will, in the words of the House Judiciary Committee report on the bill, "generally be relieved of liability for harm caused if . . . the volunteer was acting within the scope of the volunteer's responsibilities."

This will be good news to Volunteer Examiners, Official Observers, ARES and RACES volunteers and others working under the sponsorship of a qualifying non-profit organization, all of whom appear to be covered by HR 911. The pending new law means that you aren't as likely to be sued as a result of harm unintentionally caused to someone else, if your actions were part of your responsibilities as a volunteer working on behalf of a government agency or a non-profit organization.

Amateurs and other volunteers are advised that until the bill is signed by the President and its various loopholes pass the scrutiny of the legal community, they should not assume they'll automatically be covered. It appears, for example, that ham volunteers not working under the sponsorship of a qualifying organization and who provide communication during a marathon, bicycle race or other public service or public safety event might not be covered. The same exclusion might apply to frequency coordinators and certain others who--though they are volunteers--aren't

participating on behalf of a non-profit entity. The law will clearly protect only those who are "volunteers of a non-profit organization or government entity." The definition is less clear with respect to "non-profit organizations." These can be Section 501(c)(3) entities, that is, an organization holding a certain tax exemption from the IRS. But, they also include those organizations which may not be tax-exempt, but which are organized and conducted for public benefit and operated primarily for charitable, civic, educational, religious, welfare, or health purposes.

The growing reluctance of private citizens to volunteer for fear of lawsuits triggered interest in this legislation. Some states have enacted volunteer protection statutes, but inconsistency among the various state laws prompted the League to promote liability legislation in Congress, initially to protect VEs and Amateur Auxiliary members.

The new legislation requires that the volunteer be licensed, certified or authorized, "if appropriate or required" by state or local authorities. It does not provide protection where the harm was caused by willful or criminal misconduct, gross negligence, reckless misconduct, or conscious, flagrant indifference to rights or safety of the individual(s) harmed by the volunteer. The House version of the legislation would not cover any volunteer who inadvertently caused harm to another person while operating a motor vehicle that requires an operator license or insurance. Also, certain limitations in existing state volunteer liability laws are not preempted by the Federal protection under the bill.

ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, is studying copies of the House and Senate bills to determine the impact of the new legislation on Amateur Radio volunteers.

NNNN
/EX
via ARRL

BARC Monthly Minutes, Juanita Humbles, KE4JWK

BARC MONTHLY MEETING MAY 13, 1997 1930HR. ST. PETERS SCHOOL

1. Call to Order by Paul Fletcher, KS4YF, President.
2. 50/50 Invitation.
3. Introductions / Rollcall / Welcome Visitors and Guest Speaker, Dan Bartholf, N2RNF of the National Weather Service in Newport, N.C.
4. April Meeting Minutes approved as published in Ham Chatter with errors corrected (Heber Adams' callsign - W4GDF and Simplex - 146.520).
5. Reports from Officers / Old Business:

A. Treasurer's Report submitted by Brother Simon Jaworski, KQ2V. Current Balance \$1809.33 (\$626.22 for Equipment).

B. Secretary's Report by Juanita Humbles, KE4JWK: See Correspondence and fliers on upcoming Hamfests. We received free 2 tickets from the Cary Swapfest on July 19, 1997, which will be raffled with the 50/50 drawing if approved by the group. The ARRL Annual Report was sent, with 87 voting members and 104 total members (includes Associates, other Clubs, etc.).

C. President's Report - Paul noted that Dave Langley, W4YDY will be the new Ham Chatter Editor. Many thanks for taking over the position, along with all the great work on the BARC Homepage on the Internet. We all wish Kenny Proffitt, KE4RQF good luck on his ventures in returning to Tennessee and finishing his education there, with Thanks for a

job well done with the Ham Chatter over the past 3 years. In coordination with Field Day planning the Trailer is in great need of repair. Mike Langley, KD4MTT suggests the last week in May. After discussion, May 31st start at 11:00am was chosen. The trailer is located at Mark's Marine on Hwy. 33 East, between Greenville and Grimesland. Bernie Nobles, WA4MOK voiced reminder of Speaker tonight and to keep business meeting short.

D. Field Day Planning update by Brother Simon, KQ2V Co-chairman with Carolina East Mall, behind Sears as the site for this year's Field Day. Plans are to operated 2A and Novice-Tech stations. Have received the Field Day Packet. The Evening Meal plans are for a "Pig Pickin", pot luck vegetables. Next Committee Meeting on May 18th at 7:45 PM at St. Peter's, in the Library.

6. New Business:

A. Charlie Howell, N4SMS formerly of Wilson and known on the Monday Night Net in the past, has moved to 3614 Golf Street, Nashville, Tennessee, (615) 228-0030, and asks for correspondences to keep up with HAMS in the area.

B. Doug Thurston, KC4AEY and his wife are moving to the western part of the state to be with family due to his wife's illness. Doug has asked for help in taking his tower down at 300 Crestline Blvd. on May 17th. Bernie and Paul are asking for any other volunteers.

C. VE Sessions - next on Friday, June 20, 1997 @ 6:30 PM, in the Science Classroom at St. Peter's School.

D. Brother Simon, KQ2V - with update on VE Sessions and the illegal practice going on of giving Test with Answers to help people become HAMS and advance quickly to Extra Class License. James Anderson, KE4JZX/ex-WO4LF and Steve Minor, KE4TRG have thus far identified as two HAMS doing this and as of today, more names have come up. Though, we are all innocent until proven guilty, we must stop this injustice and speak up against this. Also, it's been said that tests are being sold or you can buy any class of license. Amateurs should stand together and show support to stop this.

E. VOA Tour will be tentatively planned for the July 8th meeting due to interest with other clubs.

F. Walter Verdick, KA4WFS cousin of Jim Hecker, KD4BVX noted that Jim has taken a turn for the worse and the doctors not optimistic of him recovering from the Cancer. Our Thoughts and Prayers go out to Jim and his Family.

7. 50/50 Drawing: \$28.00 collected, with \$14.00 won by Gary Ambert, AI4J. The two Cary Swapfest tickets were both won by Sara Clemens, daughter of Dick Clemens, KE4UGE.

8. The Program tonight is on Hurricane Preparedness and video of the National Weather Station in Newport presented by Dan Bartholf, N2RNF. Dan spoke on the different types of storms, radars, reporting of storms, and how the Weather Station is set up. Hopefully a new type of Weather Radio by Radio Shack will be available in June for such Stations that will allow individual County Alerts, instead each county receiving

Propagation Forecast

ZCZC AP22
QST de WIAW
Propagation Forecast Bulletin 22
ARLP022
From Tad Cook, K7VVV
Seattle, WA May 30, 1997
To all radio amateurs
SB PROP ARL ARLP022

ARLP022 Propagation de K7VVV

Solar activity declined slightly from the recent peak, which was centered around May 21. Propagation has been very good, with worldwide openings on 20 meters into the late evening here on the West coast. Last week the solar flux was above the 90 day average of 74 on every day. A new region of sunspots

appeared on May 23 and again on May 27. In the previous week one new region appeared on May 16, two on May 17, two on May 19, and one on May 21. At last conditions seem to be pulling out of the doldrums.

Geomagnetic conditions were upset on May 27 when the planetary A

(Continued on page 9)

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: Dave Langley** or email to: **w4ydy@sprintmail.com**

Wanted: 1 output loading capacitor - 1000 pf. air 3 to 4 kv. 1 filament choke 20 AMP or more, 12 volt 50 watt zener. K4SKI, Charlie T. Wells, Jr. 355-3325 2

Wanted: Manual for Hewlett Packard Plotter; Model HP-7475A.
John McCoy, K4KBB
Greenville, NC 758-1719. 1

For Sale: Outbacker Perth Mobile Antenna. Like new. \$200.00. Call Sandy Vernick, KM4ZA at 919-756-2162 (evenings). 1

For Sale: HEATHKIT Linear Amplifier, Model SB220. \$350.00. Call Frank Tate, W4OCT at 756-3296. 1

Outgoing QSL Service reminder:

Rates for the ARRL's Outgoing QSL Service have increased. The current rate for members is \$4 per each pound of cards or portion thereof (one pound equals approximately 150 cards). A package of 10 or fewer cards sent in a single shipment costs \$1. Add \$1 for each additional 10 cards or portion thereof. Checks or money orders are preferred (please write your call sign on all checks). Do not send postage stamps or IRCs. DXCC credits cannot be applied toward any QSL Service fees. -- Martin Cook, N1FOC - *via The ARRL Letter Online*

Propagation de K7VVV

(Continued from page 8)

index was 21. The Planetary K index jumped to a very high value of 6 at 0300z, indicating a severe disturbance, but it then dropped back to 2 by 0900z, a very stable quiet value.

Based on recent conditions, the next solar rotation is expected to produce a decline in solar flux to the low seventies until June 11, when the flux should rise back toward 80. Of course this assumes no new activity, and new activity from the new solar cycle is what we hope for.

Sunspot Numbers for May 22 through 28 were 66, 58, 52, 50, 38, 43 and 25 with a mean of 47.4. 10.7 cm flux was 81, 76.2, 76.9, 78, 80, 78.3 and 77.4, with a mean of 78.3, and estimated planetary A indices were 4, 3, 6, 5, 8, 21, and 6, with a mean of 7.6.

(This bulletin is still written by Tad Cook, who recently changed his callsign from KT7H to K7VVV.)
NNNN

/EX - *via ARRL*

NETS

VHF

- ◆ BARC Net, Mondays, 2000 on 147.09 Mhz, W4GDF Repeater.
- ◆ Pitt County Emergency Communications Net, Mondays, 2100 on 147.09 MHz.
- ◆ Eastern North Carolina Traffic Net, Every night, 2030 on 146.685 MHz.
- ◆ New Bern Amateur Radio Club/ Eastern NC 220 Association for the WD4JMS & WD4DAN Net, Monday, 2000 on 146.61 MHz
- ◆ Wilson Amateur Radio Club Net, Monday 2030 on 146.76 MHz.
- ◆ Piedmont Coastal Traffic Net, Monday 2030 on 146.76 MHz.
- ◆ Newport WFO SKYWARN Net, Wednesday, 2100 on 146.685 MHz
- ◆ Albermarle Emergency Net, Wednesday, 2100 on 145.11 MHz and linked repeaters.
- ◆ Beaufort County Emergency Communications Net, Thursday 2000 on 145.345 MHz. Preceded by Newsmen at 1930.

HF

- ◆ Tar Heel Emergency Communications Net on 3923 kHz Nightly 1900.

Radio Merit Badge Book Depleted

This might be a good sign. Maria Dahl of the electronic publishing division of the national office of the Boy Scouts of America reports that BSA HQ has run out of the *Radio* merit badge book. "Three thousand is considered to be a year's supply, and we have depleted the supply before year's end," she said. This is good news to hams who know the importance of capturing the interest of young people and getting them excited about our great hobby. --*Rosalie White, WA1STO -via The ARRL Letter Online*

VE SESSION

The next BARC VE session will be held on June 20, at 6:30 PM at St. Peter's School on 4th St., Greenville. The testing fee is \$6.25 payable in cash or check. Candidates for the exams will need to bring two forms of ID, one of which must be a picture ID. All VE's need to contact Brother Simon.

BARC

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 10.	Regular Meeting	August 28*	Board Meets
June 20.	VE License Session	August 30-31.	Shelby Hamfest
June 26*	Board Meets	September 9	Regular Meeting
June 28-29	FIELD DAY	September 20-21.	Virginia Beach Hamfest
July 9.	Regular Meeting at VOA Site A	October 2*	Board Meets
July 19.	Cary Hamfest	October 12.	Maysville Hamfest
July 31*	Board Meets	October 14.	Regular Meeting
August 12	Regular Meeting	October 17.	VE License Session
August 15	VE License Session	October 30*	Board Meets

*Tentative

BARC 2 METER NET - MONDAY NIGHTS AT 8:00 PM - 147.09 W4GDF REPEATER
PCEC 2 METER NET - MONDAY NIGHTS AT 9:00 PM - 147.09 W4GDF REPEATER
BRIGHTLEAF AMATEUR RADIO CLUB STATION

W 4 A M C

Ham Chatter

PO Box 8387
Greenville, NC 27835



To: