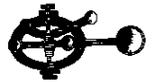




Ham Chatter



Volume 32 Issue 1

An Official BARC, W4AMC, Publication

January 1998

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Meet the BARC Members Tom Parsons, KD4AFH

Tom Parsons (KD4AFH), our president for 1998, was born in Durham, NC, but he is a man of the world. Tom spent 26 years in the army retiring as a colonel (that's why some refer to him as "colonel") with many different duty stations. Most of his army time was with the 82nd Airborne Division retiring in 1976. Later, he taught high school JROTC and again retired in 1994. He has a BS degree in Business Administration.

While always having an interest in amateur radio, he was first licensed in 1991. He found he could use ham radio in conjunction with his many other activities (i.e., scouting). Tom has served BARC well as: president (1995), Chair of the Constitution Revision Committee, Field Day Chair, JOTA Chairperson and Chair of the new ham Instructor Group. His HF equipment consists of an Icom 751A into a Mosley Classic 33 Tri-Bander (which he had to replace after Fran). The 2 meter work is done on an Icom 229H and Yaesu 530 dual bander.

It's difficult to see that Tom has retired since he is so busy - he considers himself to be a "professional volunteer". He is a CPR and First Aid instructor with the Red Cross and operates there in his role with ARES. Tom is also a Master Gardener Volunteer. Boy scouts seems to take up the remaining waking hours. In addition to being a Scout Master, he trains adults to work with the scouts, and is involved in many of the merit badge and other activities the scouts experience.

(Continued on page 5)

The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club will have its monthly meeting on January 13, at 7:30 PM at St. Peter's School on 4th Street. All members and guests are invited to attend.

Attention All Members

January is the time to renew your membership. Please be sure to fill out and send in or bring to the club meeting the application that was inserted in the December issue of *Ham Chatter*. For those that have Internet access, and you need an application, go to the BARC site, <http://www.geocities.com/CapeCanaveral/4208/application.html> and print out a copy. The application form is needed so your information can be updated when you send in your dues.

Annual dues for regular members are fifteen dollars (\$15) and it is one dollar (\$1) for family members living in the same household. The family member will share the *Ham Chatter*. Dues for first year new hams over 15 are three dollars (\$3) and under 16, one dollar (\$1). Associate members (non-licensed) dues are three dollars (\$3).

Honorary members do not pay annual dues and they have rights and privileges of regular members. - W4YDY

Christmas Party Enjoyed by All Attendees Many Prizes and Awards

The annual Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club was held in December in place of the regular club meeting. The members were joined by their families and guests and everyone enjoyed the good food from the covered dish supper.

Each person was given a ticket and many door prizes were given away. Amateur Radio books, flowers and many gift certificates to several restaurants in



Greenville were among the items. KD4AFH had a chance to include three BARC tee shirts! He still has a few left for sale. BARC benefits from the sale of the shirts.

Quite a number of annual awards and certificates were presented to members and others that have help promote Amateur Radio through their activities.

A plaque for BARC 1997 HAM of the Year was presented to Dave Langley, W4YDY.

Certificates were awarded to Joe Melton, WB4SLF, for OM of the Year; Juanita Humbles, KE4JWK, for YL of

(Continued on page 3)

President's Corner - Tom, KD4AFH

As you welcome the new year, you are also welcoming a new president, although this will be my second term. I follow our outgoing president Paul Fletcher KS4YF, who followed me in my first term. Paul served two straight years and deserves a lot of thanks and praise for the activities that occurred on his watch. I just hope that my second time around will be as successful. Some of the things that Paul initiated will be continued and hopefully brought to a conclusion satisfactory to all concerned. One of these is to accredit BARC as a Special Service Club, a matter in which I hope you all agree.

I am not new to BARC or to its many functions. I have been active in Field Days, JOTA, the constitution revision, Many antenna parties and the training of new hams. I expect to continue in these functions and most especially in the training of new hams. I would like to establish a permanent "Instruction Committee" staffed with talented hams, with the goal of conducting at least one class per year. Of course, a class cannot be conducted if we don't have participants. This is where you come in. Personally, I hope to create more interest and, if necessary, conduct special classes for the Boy Scouts and

their leaders. We must have young blood for Amateur Radio to continue and Scouting may be one of our sources.

I am also interested in the possibility of conducting classes for upgrade to General and to Advanced Class. Once we have a good Instruction Committee functioning, there is no place we cannot go. We had some very good talent manifest itself during our recent

I may have been elected to be your president but, I cannot serve you unless I know what you want.

"New Ham" class and, I know there is more talent out there just waiting for the chance to show your stuff. Don't wait to be asked, come forward and volunteer.

What are our meetings going to be like during the coming year? Well! This is the area where you can most contribute to the club. We need to know what you are interested in hearing more about. One area of recent concern to all is the FCC RF-Exposure Regulations. This was covered in great detail in the January QST but, perhaps you would like to have a presentation to better understand the subject. The secret to attendance at future programs is this

months program. If you do not find the programs interesting then you will probably not return. Let us know. Make your desires known to me or to any board member, or even bring them up during our regular monthly meetings. I may have been elected to be your president but, I cannot serve you unless I know what you want. You may write or call your Senators or Congressmen to complain or to pass on an "Attaboy". Feel free to treat me the same way. My phone number is 355-2815 and my e.mail address is <tparsons@greenvillenc.com>. Remember! I serve at your pleasure. Help me to make 1998 a great year for BARC.

I cannot close without thanking all those who made our December Christmas Party meeting such a great success. Those who planned and conducted all the arrangements and especially you who attended. I though it was our best party in recent years. Happy New Year To All
73's & 88's de Tom KD4AFH

Happy Birthday

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

- 1 K4NU Bob Holt
 - 2 KD4AFL Mac E.Manning
 - 6 KF4RBJ Joyce Griswell
 - 15 W4EHF Bill Finch
 - 24 KQ4BN Joseph Aleksa
 - 26 W4UTO Mary A. Knapp
 - 29 KD4AAQ W. C. Mayo
 - 31 W4JIS Cleon J. McKnight
- Please let me know of any additions or corrections. - W4YDY

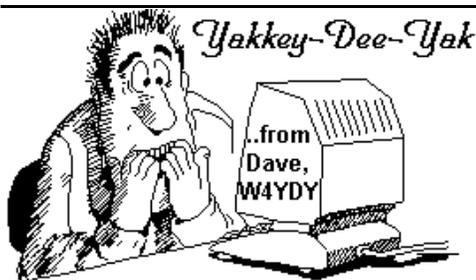
Joseph L. Parsons K1PKN - Silent Key

Joseph L. Parsons, K1PKN, brother of BARC President Tom Parsons, KD4AFH, became a silent key on December 13. Joe, better known to the family as Leonard, was 76 and had retired to Jacksonville Florida. Joe served on the Aircraft Carrier, USS Lexington during WW II and became a ham after the war while serving with the Naval Reserve in Rhode Island. Tom would like to thank all those fellow hams who expressed their condolences at the loss of his brother.

Tom's other brother Bill, W4GPR, is better known to BARC for his participation in several of our Field Days

Inside This Issue

<i>President's Corner</i>	2
<i>Happy Birthday</i>	2
<i>Yakkey-Dee-Yak</i>	3
<i>New NC ARES Appointees</i>	4
<i>DXCC Fee Hike Explained</i>	4
<i>New Form 610</i>	5
<i>Gate 4 Attracts Hundreds</i>	5
<i>Sputnik PS2 Dead?</i>	6
<i>QSL Bureau Reminder</i>	7
<i>December BARC VE Sessions</i>	8
<i>BARC Meeting Minutes</i>	8
<i>Ham Ads</i>	9



In the near future, I hope to make some improvements to the BARC Internet site. Over the last few weeks, I have started putting some of the late news about club activities on the top of the home page. We try to keep the latest info about VE sessions and meeting information near the top of the home page. If anyone has any information that should be passed on to club members, let me know and I will get it on the Internet. For the members that have Internet access, it might pay to check the BARC page at least once a week or more often to see if there is any late breaking information. For those not on the Internet, we will have to use the usual methods via radio, landline and Ham Chatter.

At this time, there are over thirty email addresses listed in the BARC email listing on the Internet. There are some I am sure I don't have and there are some that don't want to be listed. If there are any corrections, please let me know. I think that it is outstanding that BARC has over thirty-five percent of the members listed with email. It really helps getting the word out fast when it is necessary. I am able to notify everyone that is interested, that the latest issue of Ham Chatter has been published on the Internet. I also have a list of over thirty other Amateurs that I notify via email. Some are ARRL officials, clubs and other editors. This way, the Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club activities are more

If anyone has any information that should be passed on to club members, let me know and I will get it on the Internet.

widely known around the Amateur Radio fraternity. The Internet version of the Ham Chatter is published after the printer gets it and usually before the USPS gets it to your home. An added advantage of the Internet version are the color pictures. There is always a picture on the *Meet the Members* column. (Sure wish it wasn't so expensive to have pictures on the hard copy!)

Hopefully in the future, there will be some improvements on Ham Chatter. Ham Chatter has been entered in the annual contest held by the Amateur Radio News Service. They usually get three judges experienced in editing of newsletters, newspapers, etc. They are not always licensed Amateur Radio operators. They give very good constructive critiques on how to improve the newsletters. When the contest results are announced, I will pass along the results, no matter how bad or good it is.

Santa left a copy of MS Publisher 97 under the Christmas tree. I have been using Version 2 that is about 3 years old. The new version has some added features that I am going to have to learn. There might not be much difference but it might make the job easier. Now I have to get busy and learn the new features. I am going to try to edit the next issue with it. I won't erase Version 2 off the hard drive until I'm comfortable with Publisher 97.

I would like to congratulate the six new Amateur Radio operators, the two upgrades and the two that passed part of the Extra Class exams at the December BARC VE sessions. Gary Gasperini, ex-KE4SMJ, sports a new callsign, KU4NQ.

The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club has really been fortunate to have **Paul Fletcher, KS4YF**, lead the club as President for the last two years. He has helped support some important projects

(Continued on page 8)

Christmas Party

(Continued from page 1)

the Year; Joyce Griswell, KF4RBJ, NEW HAM of the Year; and Tom Parsons, KD4AFH, for ELMER of the Year.

Officers for 1997 were awarded Certificates of Appreciation to Paul Fletcher, KS4YF, President; James Eubanks, KD4JOV, First Vice President; Byron Highland, KA4KGZ, Second Vice President; Juanita Humbles, KE4JWK, Secretary; Brother Simon Jaworski, KQ2V, Treasurer; and Board Member - Gary Gasperini, KE4SMJ (Now KU4NQ).

Walter Verdick, KA4WFS, received a Certification of Appreciation for ARRL Public Information Officer; Dave Langley, W4YDY, for Ham Chatter and Internet Home Page Editor; and Brother Simon Jaworski, KQ2V, for VE Coordinator. Certifications of Appreciation for Volunteer Examiners were given to Joseph Aleksa, KQ4BN, Gerry Clayton, K4IDD, Bob Connelly, KB4FWL, James Eubanks, KD4JOV, Byron Highland, KA4KGZ, Dave Langley, W4YDY, Alexander Macklin, KC4PHJ, John McCoy, K4KBB, and Murray Merner KF4FQB.

The following repeater trustees were awarded Certification of Appreciation; Heber Adams, W4GDF - 147.09; Wayne Ross, WD4JPQ - 145.35; Doug Ferris, K4ROK - 145.27; Macon Dail, WB4PMQ - 444.80; Murray Adams, WA4DAN - 224.84; and Bill Overton, WB4PAC - 224.36.

For those members that did not attend the Christmas party, you missed a great time. Many members state that this is their favorite meeting of the year. It's a great time to meet the other family members of the club members. It might just get a few to take an exam and get that Amateur Radio license. Please consider coming to the party next year if it is possible. - W4YDY

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New North Carolina ARES Appointees

This is to bring all of you up to date on the newest appointees in the NC Section. These Amateur Radio Operators will be added to the Web Page as soon as possible.

EASTERN BRANCH

Area 2 DEC, Wayne Ross WD4JPQ

CENTRAL BRANCH

Nash County EC, Fred Winner KE4LXW
Vance County EC, Larry Knight KF4KRB

Area 6 DEC, Jim Lewis N4PE

Area 7 DEC, Woody Bradley KE4BOB

Area 8 DEC, Pat Gorman KE4WZY

WESTERN BRANCH

Caldwell County EC, Gary Suddreth, KD4YTU

Area 11 DEC Bill Edwards AE4GA

Area 13 DEC Jim Rogers N4EUX

Most of these Hams are active

on our official HF ARES Net, the Tar Heel Emergency Net (THEN), which operates every night of the week on 3923 khz at 730 PM local time. Each of you are invited to drop by and offer your

Reed Whitten, AB4W, and I (K4MPJ) want to thank each of these Hams for accepting these positions...

congratulations and encouragement to these Hams. Reed Whitten, AB4W, and I want to thank each of these Hams for accepting these positions and offering their services to the NC ARES Organization.

If any of you Hams that are not involved with the ARES Organization

would like to become involved, please contact your Local EC, Area DEC, Branch ASEC, me, K4MPJ your SEC, or Reed Whitten, AB4W, your NC SM. Your help will be very much appreciated and welcomed and will give you a good feeling of providing assistance in time of need.

Check out the NC ARRL Web Page for new information concerning ARES and other subjects of interest. www.nc.arrl.org

Happy Holidays to all.

73

Charles Hayworth K4MPJ

North Carolina Section Emergency Coordinator

December 15, 1997

Via Email

DXCC Fee Hike Explained

New fees for the DXCC program that went into effect January 1 will only cover about one half of the program's substantial annual shortfall. The DXCC program costs at least \$100,000 more each year to administer than it collects in user fees, despite greater efficiency and a smaller staff than in the past. That explanation from ARRL Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ, came in the wake of comments from DXCC participants who were unhappy about the fee increases.

Sumner noted that the League "had a difficult financial year in 1996," when it posted a \$700,000 operating loss. To turn things around, Sumner said, the Board of Directors determined to curb continuing losses as well as cut other costs and seek additional income sources. In the case of DXCC and other membership service programs that serve a portion of the membership, these efforts focused on ways to reduce costs or to

make the programs more self-sustaining through user fees.

"The DXCC program is expensive to administer in its present form," Sumner said, pointing out that the League plans to take advantage of new technology in an effort to further cut the program's costs without affecting its integrity. New software scheduled to come on-line early this year should

The DXCC program costs at least \$100,000 more each year to administer than it collects in user fees

increase the speed of DXCC processing. "After that, attention will turn to a program that will allow members to file DXCC applications electronically, which we anticipate will lead to further savings without sacrificing integrity in any way," he said.

"Everyone wants the DXCC program to continue and to provide the kind of service that members deserve." Sumner emphasized that the League "never considered as an option" any steps that might have affected the integrity of the DXCC program. - *Via ARRL Letter Online 1/2/98*

Ham Radio Rescue - Again!

Three Franklin Pierce College students may owe their lives to ham radio. The three found themselves stranded on New Hampshire's Mount Monadnock in late November after becoming disoriented and lost in the snow and darkness. One of the students was Michael Sensabaugh, KB2SSA, of New York. He radioed for help with his small hand-held transceiver via the K1TQY repeater in Keene.

Repeater trustee Dawn Cummings, K1TQY, and Roberta Bennett, N1WTY, responded. Cummings took charge of communication. Bennett called in the alarm to Monadnock State Park Manager Michael Walsh. Then, she bundled her young son and her own H-T in the family car and drove to Walsh's office.

Throughout the next four hours, Bennett provided a radio link between the lost students and the search party via "Henry, the Keene Machine," as the K1TQY repeater is known. Walsh was thus aware of the students' current predicament and was able to instruct and encourage them accordingly. The students were found late that evening and brought to safety as bad weather continued to move in.--*thanks to Richard*

FCC Forms Contractor Now Has New Form 610

With just days to spare, the new FCC Form 610 now is available from the FCC's forms contractor. The FCC has ordered the destruction of all previous versions of the form. As of January 1, 1998, the FCC will accept *only* the new Form 610 for all filings. Forms 610A and 610B also have been amended. The major change in the new Form 610

As of January 1, 1998, the FCC will accept *only* the new Form 610 for all

is a certification that says the applicant has read and will comply with the new RF radiation safety rules that begin phasing in on January 1, 1998.

The FCC Forms Distribution Center accepts orders at 800-418-3676.

That's not to say the new Form 610 simply has not been available until now. ARRL VEC Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, says the ARRL/VEC sent out 43,000 copies of the revised 610 last week to VE teams across the country. The ARRL had copies printed earlier this

fall and has been supplying the new forms to those who have requested them for the past six weeks. In addition, the ARRL now supplies a new handout, *Additional Information for Amateurs Completing the New FCC Form 610*, that

contains a condensed version of how to comply with the new RF safety regulations.

The new Forms 610 also

have been available from the FCC's Web site at <http://www.fcc.gov/formpage.html>, at <ftp://ftp.fcc.gov/pub/Forms>, or by fax at 202-418-0177 (request index).

To order a new Form 610 from the ARRL, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to ARRL/VEC, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111. Include one unit of first-class postage for each Form you order. - *Via ARRL Letter Online 12/19/97*

Ohio VOA Antennas Come Down

Ham visitors to Ohio--perhaps on their way to the Dayton Hamvention--sometimes found it hard to keep their eyes on the highway when passing the Voice of America's Bethany Relay Station. The vast antenna farm off I-75 north of Cincinnati consisting of 14 rhombics and a huge Sterba curtain easily distracted most hams.

At one time among the most powerful shortwave stations in the world, the Bethany Relay Station was shut down a couple of years ago. Earlier this month, the towers supporting the majestic Sterba curtain and other wire arrays came crashing down--to make way for commercial and recreational development and a university campus on the 625-acre site. Among those on hand to watch the spectacle was Tom Rupp, W8TCR, a VOA engineer for 26 years who retired in 1993.

Work will continue to remove the other towers and structures. Most of the towers will be pulled from the ground with a crane. Forty towers, ranging from 90 to 150 feet tall, will be salvaged. Crews will finish clearing the towers by February.

A report in the *Cincinnati Enquirer* quoted ham radio operator Joe Goforth, WB8NFJ, who lived less than a mile from the VOA site for two decades. "I used to talk to the engineers all the time," he told the paper, noting that VOA broadcasts sometimes interfered with his ham gear. "But I guess I'm a little disappointed to see it go," he added.

For a look at one of the Sterba curtain support towers coming down, see <http://www.palmtop.net/img/voa.jpg>. For more info on the Bethany Relay Station, visit the Jim Hawkins' (WA2WHV) Radio Room, <http://www.exit109.com/~jimh/voaohio.html>.--thanks to Mitch Hamm, N8XS, and Jim Hawkins, WA2WHV - *Via ARRL Letter Online 12/19/97*

Gate 4 Attracts Hundreds

The FCC does not expect to begin processing Gate 4 applications until after the first of the year. A spokesperson at the FCC's Gettysburg office said the current plan is to run the first-day applications on or about January 7, 1998, but emphasized that this is not a firm date.

The FCC has processed earlier vanity receipts through mid-November, including all work in process (WIPs) applications. In November, the FCC reports it got 517 electronic applications and 149 paper applications.

The FCC reports it got more than 800 electronic applications on December 2, the first day of Gate 4. Another 120 electronic applications showed up on December 3. A count of paper applications is not yet available. *Via ARRL Letter Online 12/12/97*



Meet the BARC Members - Tom Parsons, KD4AFH

(Continued from page 1)

Tom is married to Bobbie and they have three children and four grandchildren. One of his sons, Tom, is a ham too - KD4YIN.

You can see that Tom is a strong family man, involved in the community and youth, and a good ham and club member. He's some one who exemplifies the ham radio spirit. - *KF4FQB*

Sputnik PS2 Dead?

Reports from around the world appear to confirm that the **Sputnik PS2** mini-satellite has stopped transmitting. The beacon signal from the working model of the original Sputnik 1 satellite was last monitored on December 29 or 30. The lithium battery-powered 200 mW transmitter had continued working for eight weeks after its launch by hand from the Russian *Mir* space station on November 3, transmitting a beep-beep tone on 145.82 MHz, and many hams around the globe had continued to track the satellite's progress. The frequency of the tone indicated the satellite's internal temperature. Recent reports from stations monitoring the Sputnik PS2 indicated its signals were getting weaker.

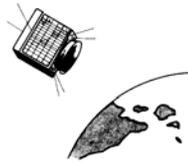
Students from the FR5KJ radio club at Jules Reydellet College in St Denis, Reunion Island, and at the Polytechnic Laboratory of Nalchik Kabardine in Russia cooperated in building the mini-Sputnik. The Russian students built the satellite body, while the

French students fabricated the transmitter inside. Two working models of the Sputnik were assembled and transported to *Mir*, but only one was launched. The Sputnik PS2, also called RS-17, surpassed the life of its original namesake

The little satellite was a one-third scale model of the original

by several weeks. The little satellite was a one-third scale model of the original and had been estimated to remain in operation for approximately 40 days.

As of January 2, the satellite had not been officially declared dead, however. - *Via ARRL Letter Online 1/2/98*



Mir Update

MIREX chief Dave Larsen, N6CO, reports that an announced crossband "experiment" involving *Mir* has been abandoned for now because of interference on 145.800 and 145.550. US astronaut Dave Wolf, KC5VPF, aboard *Mir* has been on 145.985 MHz FM simplex, but only occasionally. A space walk at the end of this month will check and--if necessary--repair the 2-meter/70-cm antenna that might have been damaged. The Kenwood TM-733 aboard *Mir* has been connected to the spacecraft's SAFEX repeater antenna. A

Crossband "experiment" involving *Mir* has been abandoned for now

new KAM dual mode packet radio terminal node controller (TNC) that was recently sent to *Mir* from the MIREX team was tested onboard *Mir* last week. The new TNC supports both 1200 and 9600 baud connections, and has a message buffer size of 100 kilobytes--substantially larger than that of the TNC previously in use. Until a suitable cable can be wired up and installed, 9600 baud communications will not be available.--
thanks to Dave Larsen, N6CO - Via

BARC Web Page Comments!

Just read the latest newsletter (*on the web*), a really super job! Say hello to Simon for me.

Pete Jaworski, KW2D, Rip Van Winkle ARC, NY

Thanks Dave for putting me on to your stuff. Very interesting. I've made it a "favorite" so I can check it out from time to time.

Paul Nance, W4YDD, Ocean Drive, SC

This is a big beautiful page. Thanks for the interest and effort shown to our club.

Gene Underwood, KE4JZU

Excellent web site. Looks great, and kept up to date! Way above average.

Gary Pearce, KN4AQ, Raleigh ARS,

ARRL NC Section Public Information Coordinator

Very well done!

Don Droegemeyer, AB4C, Sonoma Co. Radio Amateurs, Santa Rosa, CA

Enjoyed looking at pictures of some of my friends. Job well done.

John T. Lewis, WB2LVB, Sunset Beach, NC

I have enjoyed looking at the Brightleaf Club page. It has given us some ideas in the past for the Franklin County Amateur Radio Club. Keep up the good work that you and the club are doing.

Roger Allen, KD4MYE, President of FCARC

I have put a link to ur page from mine - makes it easy for me to return.! keep up the good work, 73.

Tony, EI9HK, Cork, Ireland

HI, I really liked your Home page and the ghost. 73. (Ed. Note: It was Halloween!)

Ebbe, SM0EPM in Stockholm, Sweden

The barc web page is excellent, keep up the good work.

Bernie Nobles, WA4MOK, Winterville
Above are some of the comments received via email and the BARC Guestbook about the BARC Internet Pages. Thanks to all. - W4YDY

Ham Radio History

In a whimsical mood, here's a lighthearted look at ham radio history. The original version of this was posted on the Contest Reflector a few months back.

- * 4 Billion BC--Earth is a swirling ball of flames. Propagation is extremely poor.
- * 1 Billion BC--First dry land appears. It is divided up into grid squares.
- * 500 Million BC--Second patch of dry land appears. First DXpedition; DXCC credit disallowed because of questionable licensing agreement.
- * 400 Million BC--Flowering plants and grasses evolve. Rotary beam invented, but sales stall for lack of suitable mounting structures.
- * 300 Million BC--First tree appears and is immediately cut down, stripped of branches, placed in a concrete base and called a telephone pole. Beam sales pick up.
- * 200 Million BC--More beams sold. Installer falls from top of pole. Safety belt is invented.

- * 100 Million BC--First mountain appears. The repeater is invented.
- * 50 Million BC--CQ is adopted.
- * 4 Million BC--Humans replace swine as dominant species. The name ham operator hangs on, however.
- * 3 Million BC--Dugout canoe invented. Maritime Mobile Net formed on 14.313 MHz.
- * 2 Million BC to 800 AD--Nothing much happens for a long time.
- * 900 AD--Chinese invent gunpowder. BY1AA is first "Big Gun" DXer.
- * 1790 AD--Ben Franklin invents long wire receiving antenna. Ground switch invented.
- * 1961 AD--Second repeater erected. First repeater group refuses to change frequency. First repeater coordinator appointed.
- * 1997 AD--Amateur Radio humor sinks to a new low.

— Via ARRL Letter Online 12/19/97

QSL Bureau Reminder

Many Amateur Radio operators are getting new callsigns by upgrading and through the vanity system. If you change your callsign, you might have to change to another QSL bureau.

If you have a 4th area callsign, the bureau in Charlotte, NC handles all fourth-area call signs with single-letter prefixes (K4, N4, W4). The address is Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Club, PO Box DX, Charlotte, NC 28220. All fourth-area call signs with two-letter prefixes (AA4, KB4, NC4, WD4, etc) are handled by Sterling Park Amateur Radio Club, Call Box 599, Sterling, VA 20167.

Stations with callsigns from other areas will use the other bureaus in their callsign area. Addresses and other information can be found at <http://www2.arrrl.org/qsl/qslin.html>. - W4YDY

International Space Station Crew to Include Hams

Hams will be among the first crew members to live and work aboard the International Space Station. In addition, several of the crew members named recently by the US and Russia are studying for their licenses. The RØMIR *Mir* club station call may also be available to the Russian crew members on the ISS.

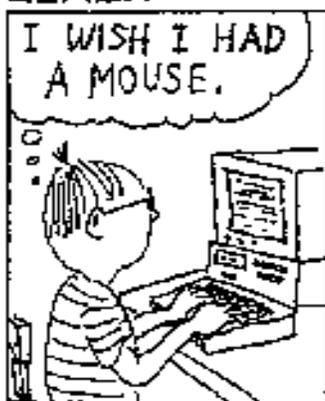
The first crew will consist of US

astronaut William M. Shepherd, as the expedition commander. Shepherd is studying for his ticket. He'll be accompanied by Russian cosmonauts Yuri Gidzenko and Sergei Krikaley, U5MIR. All three have previous space flight experience. The crew is training for an early 1999 launch on a *Soyuz* vehicle for a planned five-month mission on the ISS. Initially, crews will inhabit the

service module, which will include a ham radio antenna. Ham gear will be delivered aboard STS-96 late next year.

The second crew, headed by Russian cosmonaut Yuri Usachev, R3MIR, will include US astronauts Susan Helms, KC7NHZ, and James S. Voss, who's indicated an interest in getting his ham ticket. All three have spaceflight experience.

ELMER



by Rich Regent, K9GDF



Via ARNS Bulletin - November 1997

BARC Monthly Minutes - December 1997

BARC CHRISTMAS PARTY
DECEMBER 9, 1997 1830HR. ST.
PETER'S SCHOOL

1. A brief meeting was held at the end of the Party, officiated by Paul Fletcher, KS4YF and Mike Langley, KD4MTT.

Drawings for Door Prizes along with Christmas ornaments were special treats for all. Special Guests were Billy Mitchell, WB4SGA and his wife, Mary, WB4SGC. Billy spoke on the current status of Emergency Communications in Eastern N.C. and was campaigning for the N.C. ARRL Section Manager's position. Reminder to all ARRL Members to vote in the upcoming election for the N.C. ARRL Section Manager.

2. Awards for the followings were handed out:

Ham of the Year - Dave Langley, W4YDY

Old Man of the Year - Joe Melton, WB4SLF

YL of the Year - Juanita Humbles, KE4JWK

Elmer of the Year - Tom Parsons, KD4AFH

New Ham of the Year - Joyce Griswell, KF4RBJ

3. Certificates of Appreciation were handed out to BARC Officers and Board Members along with the following:

Public Relations: Walter Verdick, KA4WSF

Ham Chatter and Home Page Editor: Dave Langley, W4YDY

VE Coordinator: Brother Simon Jaworski, KQ2V

VE's: Joseph Aleksa, KQ4BN, Alex

Yakkey-Dee-Yak

(Continued from page 3)

that are now in the works in the public service area. Amateur radio equipment has been received by PCMH to help with communications when the ARES is called upon for emergencies. Also, the possibility that sometime in the next year or so, BARC will be able to get some nice facilities for a permanent club station, meeting room and classroom at the VOA, Site A. Paul and others have been working with the hospital, city and county on this project. It's an outstanding opportunity for the Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club.

Everyone knows that **Tom Parsons, KD4AFH**, will carry on with these projects and also start some new ones. Paul, KS4YF, will spearhead the projects that were mentioned in the above paragraph. Tom hopes to start new Amateur Radio classes for upgrading and also continue to hold more classes for new Amateurs. He has several other projects in the works also. He will be looking for help and volunteers. Looks like BARC is in for another great year.

As you probably have noticed, we have a new Contributing Editor. **Murray Merner, KF4FQB**, has volunteered to help me with local stories and he will be the main author of the column, *Meet The BARC Members*. Anyone having any information or local interest stories about Amateur Radio, please contact Murray or me via radio, email, landline or whatever! He has written several fine articles for previous *Ham Chatter's*. I want to thank Murray for his assistance.

Boy!!! What a surprise! I want to thank the Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club for the honor that was bestowed on me as the BARC 1997 Ham of the Year at the Christmas party. It did not enter my mind that I would get the award with all the members we have doing so much for the club. I hope I can live up to the honor. - W4YDY

Correction: Joe Melton's (WB4SLF) birthday is December 8, not December 18. Sorry for the error, Joe. - W4YDY

Six New Amateur Radio Operators Result of Two BARC VE Sessions in December

The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club held VE sessions on Thursday and Friday nights, December 18 and 19. New licenses were earned by James O. Smith, KF4VHH, Shirley C. Katrobos, KF4VHJ, Stephen H Cullipher, KF4VHI, Cynthia Winner, KF4VHL, Glen Finney, Jr., KF4VHK and Elvin Staben, KF4VHM. The first session was for some of the students that just completed the Amateur Radio course led by Tom Parsons, KD4AFH. The session was held at Pitt Community College where the course was taught.

Three students took exams. They all passed with flying colors. James O. Smith, KF4VHH, Winterville and Shirley C. Katrobos, KF4VHJ, Greenville both received their Technician Plus licenses and Stephen Cullipher, KF4VHI, Farmville, received his Technician license.

The VE's led by Brother Simon Jaworski, KQ2V, were Murry Merner, KF4FQB, Allen Hill, KC4RDT and Dave Langley, W4YDY.

The next evening, seven were successful. Elvin Staben, KF4VHM, Elizabeth City, became a Novice, Cynthia Winner, KF4VHL, Rocky Mount, and Glenn Finney, Jr., KF4VHK, Winterville, passed Technician license exams, David Jasper, KF4CUK, Greenville, upgraded to General and Gary Gasperini, KU4NQ, formerly KF4SMJ, upgraded to Advanced and was assigned a new callsign. Murray Merner, KF4FQB, and Jeff Wainwright, KE4ROQ, completed a step to the Extra by passing the 20 WPM code examination.

The Friday night VE's were KQ2V, KC4RDT, W4YDY and Al Macklin, KC4PHJ.

BARC congratulates the new and upgraded Amateur Radio operators.

The next BARC VE session will be February 20, 1998. Only the new Form 610 application dated September 1997 will be accepted. The FCC will no longer accept the old applications. Also the new fee, if required, will be \$6.35. - W4YDY

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

FREE:

To anyone that can use large capacitors in a High Voltage Power Supply. Two large size GE 15 μ f, 5000 VDC, each.

Charlie T. Wells, K4SKI, 355-3325 2

FOR SALE:

1) Johnson Viking II HF transmitter with model 122 VFO. All tubes in place, excellent condition, ready to go.

2) Hallicrafters model SX-101A HF receiver. Also excellent condition, ready to go. These radios would make an excellent set for the back-to-the-basics ham, or someone who wants to see what makes a radio work. They'll also keep the shack warm on a chilly winter night! Original owner's manuals for both. I have a couple early AM broadcast radios, too.

Contact Walter Rosenberger, 355-3809. 2

FOR SALE:

TS-830-S with fox tango filters plus outboard VFO (Remote VFO240) and a genuine hand held mike. Comes with original cartons and instruction manual. \$ 650.00 plus UPS. Works good. Icom 738. Original carton plus manual. \$900.00 plus UPS. Also works good.

Call Jack Kear, K4MI at 814-742-9893 2

FOR SALE:

G6-270 Antenna Dual Bander. \$100.00
KDK FM 2016 2 mtr transceiver. \$70.00
Wayne Ross, WD4JPQ, 756-7719 2

Space Station NETS

(Continued from page 7)

No licensed hams are among the third crew, which will be headed by astronaut Kenneth Bowersox and will include Russian crewmates Vladimir Dezhurov and Mikahil Turin. Bowersox also has said he'd like to get his ham license.

Russian cosmonaut Yuri Onufrienko will head the fourth crew. US astronauts Carl Walz, KC5TIE, and Daniel Bursch will accompany him.

NASA has said it won't have the International Space Station assembled fully until the end of 2003--some 18 months behind the June 2002 date announced earlier this year. Microsat/repeater payloads are supposed to arrive in early 2002, expanding ham radio capability aboard the ISS. NASA says the US habitation module--the astronaut's living quarters--should be in place by the end of 2003.--NASA; *Matt Bordelon, KC5BTL*



December Minutes

(Continued from page 8)

Macklin, KC4PHJ, Byron Highland, KA4KGZ, James Eubanks, KD4JOV, Bob Connelly, KB4FWL, Gerry Clayton, K4IDD, Dave Langley, W4YDY, John McCoy, K4KBB, and Murray Merner, KF4FQB.

Repeater Trustees:

Heber Adams, W4GDF - 147.09
Wayne Ross, WD4JPQ - 145.35
Doug Ferris, K4ROK - 145.27
Macon Dail, WB4PMQ - 444.80
Murray Adams, WA4DAN - 224.84
Bill Overton, WB4PAC - 224.36
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all!!!!

Minutes by **Juanita Humbles,**

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, Nightly 2030 on 146.76 MHz.
- ◆ Newport WFO SKYWARN Net, Wednesday, 2100 on 145.21 MHz
- ◆ Coastal Emergency Linking Net, Wednesday, 2100 on 145.11 MHz and linked repeaters.
- ◆ Beaufort County Emergency Communications Net, Thursday 2000 on 147.345 MHz. Preceded by Newsmen at 1930.

HF

- ◆ Tar Heel Emergency Communications Net on 3923 kHz Nightly 1930.

1X5AA

You might have snagged 1X5AA as a "new one" recently, but, at least for now, it's no good for DXCC, says ARRL DXCC Manager Bill Kennamer, K5FUV. The 1X5 prefix is an unofficial one that does not have international recognition. The station--said to be operating from Chechnya, a "breakaway" Russian republic--has been attracting huge pileups on 40 meter CW in recent days. Kennamer said that for 1X5 contacts to count towards DXCC, a petition would have to be filed for new country status, and it would have to be studied and voted on. Kennamer said the determination of the starting date for valid contacts would depend on the circumstances. - *Via ARRL Letter Online 12/5/97*

BARC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

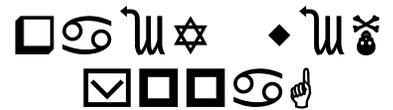
January 7	Board Meeting	March 1	Ham Chatter Deadline
January 4	Ham Chatter Deadline	March 7-8.	ARRL SSB DX Contest
January 13	Regular Meeting	March 10	Regular Meeting
January 17-19	ARRL VHF Contest	March 22	Hamfest at Kinston
January 23-25	CQ WW CW 160M Contest	March ?*	Board Meeting
January ?*	Board Meeting	March 28-29	CQ WW SSB WPX Contest
February 1.	Ham Chatter Deadline	March 29	Ham Chatter Deadline
February 10.	Regular Meeting	April 5	Raleigh Hamfest
February 21-22	ARRL CW DX Contest	April 14	Regular Meeting
February 20.	BARC VE Session	April 17	BARC VE Session
February 27-Mr. 1.	CQ WW SSB 160M Contest	May 12	Regular Meeting
February 27-Mr. 1.	North Carolina QSO Party		

* Dates 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

January 1998



To:



PO Box 8387
Greenville, NC 27835

Ham Chatter