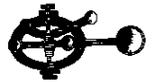




# Ham Chatter



Volume XXXII Issue 4 An Official BARC, W4AMC, Publication April 1998

Editor, Dave Langley, W4YDY, Email: w4ydy@sprintmail.com

Contributing Editor: Murray Merner,

## Meet the BARC Members John McCoy, K4KBB

John McCoy, K4KBB, hails from Bishopville, SC and his first exposure to radio was at the beginning of WWII when his uncle left a radio that had the shortwave radio band on it for him and his brother. They heard amateurs talking to each other over great distances. Their radios were even more primitive when they listened to their crystal sets using wire tacked up all over the place for their antenna.

Later in the ninth grade, John's school bought some war surplus BC603 fm radios and John seized the opportunity and bought them from the school. As is the case with surplus electronic equipment, the connectors were of an unusual type and John figured out from the shellac covered schematic the 24 volt pins on the cannon plug. As luck would have it, the plugs he needed to connect to were the same distance apart as the receptacle on the end of his mother's ironing cord. Getting the 24 volts was another challenge. One Saturday when everyone was gone, John took the 6 volt batteries from the family's truck and tractors and hooked them to the ironing cord receptacle. Voila' noise! The addition of an antenna brought in some stations.

After graduating from high school, John went to Clemson majoring in electrical engineering. After two years he went to work in a radio electronics wholesale parts house. By that time, he had an interest in getting a Conditional Class license. At that time to take the

(Continued on page 3)

*The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club will have its monthly meeting on April 14, at 7:30 PM at St. Peter's School on 4th Street. The scheduled program is ARRL Field Day planning. Bernie Nobles, WA4MOK, is Field Day Chairman. See page 6 for some major changes in Field Day rules. All members and guests are invited to attend. The next board meeting is tentatively set for April 30. The meeting is opened to all members.*

## Instructor Group

Our last new Amateur Radio class utilized several club members as instructors. Another class is in the formative stages and we are again pulling together a cadre of instructors. In addition to those of you who taught last time, we are inviting any members who would like to teach for our next class. It's good experience - you always learn more as you teach - and the students appreciate what you have done. It's nice to see some one you have taught get their license. Murray Merner, K4MHM, will soon be calling together the instructor group to plan for the class - contact him (757-3429) if you are interested in participating as in instructor. Ham radio, pass it on - be an Elmer. - K4MHM

## Special Event Station at the International Festival

On Saturday, May 2, BARC will again participate in Greenville's International Festival as a special event station. This is the second year we will be able to let the community know about us and what we do. We had a great time last year! This is an opportunity to attract new hams and community support. The festival actually begins at 11:00 a.m., but set up will begin at 7:30 a.m. It ends at 5:00 p.m. so take down will begin about that time. We will have two HF rigs and the VHF rigs individual hams bring. We need help with: set up, operators and take down. This is good experience in preparation for Field Day and emergencies.

Contact Murray, K4MHM, (757-3429) to let him know how and when you can help. Don't forget that if you are a Novice, Technician or Technician Plus, you can operate on the frequency privileges of the primary operator and so can have the opportunity to QSO on HF. Come and be a part of the fun. - K4MHM

## Murray Merner, K4MHM

Murray H Merner, ex-KF4FQB, received a new vanity callsign on March 10, 1998. His call is now K4MHM. Wonder why he picked that!!! - W4YDY

# President's Corner - Tom,

Maybe I am just getting old but, I don't recall past years being as busy as the year of 1998. I seem to be having a difficult time just trying to get caught up. Well! One thing in my favor, I have some real fine committee heads. I changed that from "chairmen" to "heads" so I would be politically correct. It's hard for an old man to change the way he has been saying things for over sixty years but, I do try. Enough of that, what I wanted to talk about is just what all those "heads" are working on.

VOA, Site "C", is in a dynamic mode. That is, it is constantly changing. Paul, KS4YF, is really on top of this one and deserves the club's appreciation for his involvement. I will leave it for him to discuss the breaking news elsewhere in this newsletter. Several events which the club actively participates in are just around the corner. If you have not already done so, you need to put these on your calendar and volunteer to help out. We need all the help we can muster to keep the good name of "Amateur Radio" in front of the community. A side benefit from this community participation is the recruiting of participants for our new ham

classes. We must have new blood in order to survive as a hobby and as a club. I am referring to events such as the Dogwood Festival, the International Festival, and the Teddy Bear Drive. You will be asked for your support in these important events, so! please say yes.

The biggest event of the year, Field Day, requires a lot of long term planning. Bernie, WA4MOK, has a committee formed and hard at work.

## VOA, Site "C", is in a dynamic mode.

Field Day gives amateur radio and the hams of Pitt County, a chance to show the public just what we can do. Even if the public does not turn out, we still have a great practice and some wonderful fellowship with the finest people in Eastern North Carolina, the hams of the Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club. We want to remind everyone, but especially

the Novice and Tech Plus hams, that Field Day affords them an opportunity to not only watch experienced hams at work, but to get on the air themselves on frequencies that would not normally be available to them. Allow me to point out one important aspect of Field Day that is often overlooked. That is the installation of the stations. The experience of erecting the towers, antennas, and installing the radios is good learning experience for everyone. It is an on the job hands on experience that will benefit you for the rest of your life. I wouldn't miss this opportunity for anything. I will be there and, I encourage all of you to turn out and join us in this great exercise. Tom, W4TEP

### Vanity Update

As of March 23, the FCC in Gettysburg had run all vanity applications through February 23. In the last run, 61 new grants were issued. No applications remained in the work in process (WIPs) stack. - via ARRL Letter Online - 3/27/98



## Happy WELL WISHES!!

Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club members birthdays in April.

3	K4KBB	John McCoy
7	WB4FRB	Ray Black
16	KA4PBX	Ed Griffith
20	KE4UGD	Lily Fainter
22	KF4VHI	Stephen Cullipher
24	W4LYM	Bill Cope

Please let me know of any additions or corrections. - W4YDY

Thoughts and Prayers go out to the following:

Albert Lalik, AA4WL, who continues his battle with Cancer.

James Eubanks, KD4JOV, with recent setbacks due to Epilepsy.

Dave Langley, W4YDY's sister, Phyllis L. Hamman, remains critically ill at Raleigh Community Hospital.

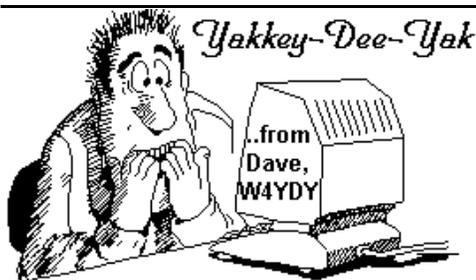
Juanita Humbles, KE4JWK, had surgery on April 2, due to Intestinal and other problems. She is doing fine.

James (Jim) Hoover, KD4MTR, has Lymphoma and is being treated with Chemotherapy.

Bernie Nobles, WA4MOK's, wife, Phyllis has been in the hospital again with heart related problems. We wish her and all a speedy recovery!!

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# Meet the BARC Members John McCoy, K4KBB

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The upcoming months promise to be very active for active Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club members. Hamfests (hope you had a good time and got lots of goodies at Kinston and Raleigh), festivals, exciting club meetings and Field Day are just some of the activities.

Please let Murray or me know whom you want featured in the MTM column in future editions. With only one a month, we should have enough members to feature for a long time with new members joining. Occasionally, the column may be preempted for special articles. Several have told me that it is one of the best features of Ham Chatter, because they are able to learn more about their fellow members. Be sure to thank Murray for his fine articles and his efforts to get the information.

Thanks to John McCoy, K4KBB, he sent Murray, K4MHM, information so we could have a Meet the Members (MTM) column this month. John and I had an interesting connection through Amateur Radio. John and I met at a VE session he was at a couple of years ago and we talked about his past experiences in Amateur Radio. He applied for his old callsign via the vanity callsign program. A couple of months later, I was doing some updating on my computer log of QSOs. I came across a QSO from 1957 with a station callsign of K4KBB. It turns out John and I had a QSO 40 years ago when he was living in Bishopville, SC and I was living in Raleigh!

It was reported to me that Juanita, KE4JWK, had a successful

*(Continued on page 7)*

test, you had to go to an FCC office unless you lived 150 miles or so away then you could be given the exam by a ham of a higher class than the class being tested. John passed the code and written given by Ben Teams, W4DX, and got his call K4KBB.

While working at the parts house, a capacitor plant came to town and John proved his skill by fixing their PA system and got a job with them. He worked as an instrument technician. To add to his credentials, he passed his second class radio telephone exam in Savannah, GA. At this time he was in the Army reserves and had reached the level of battalion communications chief for transportation and ocean shipping and a chance to be around cargo ships. This gave him another opportunity to learn other aspects of radio including building some equipment and innovative RTTY using a BC610. Towards the end of the Vietnam War, John got out of the reserves.

Around that time, he joined the Marchant Calculator Company in Quality Control. This was his first experience with manufacturing parts and exposure to Brown and Sharp screw machines and gear hobbing machines. He left Marchant and moved to Tidewater, VA and got interested in sailing and celestial navigation and developed an appreciation for astronomy. With all this going on, John let his license lapse.

John became acquainted with North Carolina sailing the intercostal waterway staying the night in a few of our little harbor towns. In his sailing, he has covered most of the intercostal waterway from Norfolk to the Florida

Keys.

He's traveled a lot on land too. He's been to many plants across the United States. During many of these assignments he kept seeing mechanical cam operated Swiss screw machines. He became fascinated with their complexity and precision. Using his experience and locating the needed machinery, he started his machine shop in 1990 in a garage. Since then the business has taken off because John believes in quality.

John again got interested in amateur radio in late 1995 and took the ham class taught by Brother Simon, KQ2V, and

**John's experience and enthusiasm make him a valued member of BARC.**

soon got relicensed with the call KF4FSX, but was later able to get his old call back. It was there I first met John as a fellow student and have enjoyed his friendship since then. His equipment consists of an Icom IC 738 on HF and on VHF/UHF he has an Alinco DR 610 for mobile/base and Alinco DJ 582 hand held. He prefers to work 2, 10 and 20 meters. John also has a 56-foot tower that Chuck, AD4ZJ, Matt, KE4UGB, and I helped him erect. John appreciates the friendship and fellowship of BARC and especially likes the field day. John's experience and enthusiasm make him a valued member of BARC.

John is married to Barbara and they have two children Philip, KH7FQ, a Tech Plus and daughter Allison. - K4MHM

## ATTENTION!!

Will the Member that paid their dues with Check Number 2265 in December, please call Juanita, KE4JWK at 355-1051 - KE4JWK (You might get dropped from HC mailing. - Editor)

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# Voice of America Site C and BARC

Representatives of BARC visited VOA Site C in February; however, soggy conditions prevented a visit into the extensive antenna field. Members of the group visited the main building as well as associated structures where a disused well and a major emergency diesel generator are located. The quite large main building contains a variety of rooms, but little functional resources that would be of value for amateur radio except the space itself.

Administrative and support areas that surround a central courtyard forms the front of the building. The rear includes a central 'Control Room' with a huge curved console located in a sunken space. This is in front of the main 'Receiver Room' where extensive antiquated receivers (apparently six) are located in paired banks in three rows across this large room. These two rooms for the center stage of the abandoned receiver works of VOA that have been superseded by modern technology in the form of satellite, microwave, and fiber-optic communications that are both more reliable and less susceptible to 'atmospheric' vagaries, not to mention infinitely smaller. This impressive array of three decades old technology should be viewed from the glassed-in passage across the building between them and the central courtyard. Ideally, the meters should produce a warm glow to match the occasional glimpse of vacuum tube with a background of international Babel directed by quivering VU meter needles and punctuated by an occasional static

crash. Most of these items would otherwise be made extinct by the extreme frequencies and insulated quantities of digital recordings and surface-mounted throwaway electronics common today. Quite a showpiece as well as a memorial to those who lighted the path to freedom for those millions sequestered behind the Iron Curtain, Berlin Wall, and dictatorships of human social darkness. All with incredible peacefulness they followed pathways these freedom-starved peoples carved toward democracy. They were guided by the words and deeds of

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**Whether any of these  
dreams are to be realized or  
not will be determined by  
mutual support by BARC  
members, county officials,  
and our community -  
especially its leadership.**

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the free as presented through the facilities of VOA as well as others like it, such as Radio Free Europe, the BBC, Radio Canada, and a few others; yet were not dissuaded by Radio Moscow and its ilk.

On the left side of these rooms are located a series of glassed-in production studios while behind and on the right are located service areas in three or four larger rooms. The antenna feedlines are routed into the building directly behind and proceed into the

'Receiver Room' through troughs recessed into the floor covered by heavy steel plates. Along the left side of the building (North) are located the mechanical spaces, storage, and garage areas.

The antenna field in the surrounding 600 acre plot is as impressive as that of the others at Sites A and B, however, it is designed primarily for reception and not broadcasting. There are no curtain antennas, only rhombics arrayed along two principal lines and one short line. These are arranged to provide coverage toward Central/Northern Europe, the Mediterranean, Southern Africa, and Central South America. Additionally, there are two large, but rotatable Log Periodic antennas, a steerable 10 meter diameter parabolic dish, and a 350 ft. tower carrying a microwave reflector - all of valuable use for amateur radio (except for the dish?). Only one pair of the rhombic antennas and the 'microwave tower' exceed 200 feet.

Initial review of these facilities as potential BARC/ARES resources provides both incentives as well as headaches. Clearly, the operation and maintenance of all antennas exceeds the potential for possible use. There are 24 antennas carried on 84 towers guyed up by at least 3 lines per tower with the sole exception of the dish. This dish is mounted on a large pad on the south side of the building. It is unlikely to be of any

*(Continued on page 5)*

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## Next VE Session April 17

The next Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club VE session will be held on April 17. Exams will be held at St. Peter's School on 4th Street. Exams will start promptly at 6:30 PM. Please bring the following:

- Photo ID (drivers license)
- Original Amateur Radio License
- Copy of Amateur Radio License
- Original CSCE's
- Copy of CSCE

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## Shack Attack Out of Business

Shack Attack of Orem, Utah, has gone out of business, according to an announcement February 23 from proprietor Blaine Watkins, KB7VRD. Shack Attack products had included call sign license display plaques, a wooden HT desktop radio holder with call sign, and a wooden desktop call sign display. - *via ARRL Letter Online - 3/13/98*

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## Help Needed to Put Ham Chatter on Audio

Ken Graf, N8FF, would like for someone to record Ham Chatter on audio tape. He would like to be able to keep up with club activities. Once he gets a computer that will read text to him, he will be able to read Ham Chatter on the BARC Internet site. If anyone has that type of equipment, it could be recorded off the BARC Internet site to tape. Any suggestions? Will you help? Contact the Ham Chatter Editor. - *W4YDY*

## North Carolina Hams Make Skywarn Count

Hams in North Carolina activated a SKYWARN net March 20 to track severe storms that crossed the state and provide up-to-the-second reports to the National Weather Service. ARRL PIO Gary Pearce, KN4AQ, says that early on the evening of March 20, hams reported several funnel clouds and tornado touchdowns across southern and eastern Wake County. Another tornado was spotted later near Raleigh-Durham Airport, and a funnel cloud was seen in Granville County.

Tornadoes caused considerable damage in Rockingham County and knocked out communication there. North Carolina Emergency Management called on hams to bridge the gap by linking the

county with the state Emergency Operations Center in Raleigh.

Pearce says that the Amateur Radio station at the National Weather Service office in Raleigh sits right next to the Doppler radar operator. The SKYWARN reports verify radar information and provide details on the ground that radar can't see. "For example, Doppler radar can see hail in clouds, but can't measure the size or detect if the hail is reaching the ground," he said. "Large hail is a good indication that a thunderstorm has the potential to form a tornado," he explained. --thanks to Gary Pearce, KN4AQ - Excerpt via ARRL Letter Online - 3/27/98

## DXCC List Price Change

The *DXCC List* has increased in price effective April 1, 1998 from \$2 to \$3. The new *DXCC List* incorporates the recent changes in DXCC rules and criteria developed by the DXCC 2000 Committee and approved by the ARRL Board of Directors. The price increase also reflects higher paper and production cost, and is necessary to maintain the production of the hard copy version of the *DXCC List*. For those with Internet capabilities, the *DXCC List* and DXCC forms are available at <http://www.arrl.org>. - via ARRL Letter Online - 3/27/98

## VOA and BARC

*(Continued from page 4)*

use for amateur radio, however, radio astronomers in our university community may find this to be a valuable resource provided the maneuvering components or suitable substitutes can be recovered. Plans are being made to justify keeping a representative sample of the antennas that can be justified for use as examples of the VOA facilities as well as some amateur use for routine, emergency, and training communications. Modifications would be required for conversion to allow the modest power levels of amateur

communications for these formerly receive-only structures; probably some custom designed traps would suffice. BARC would have to assure the appropriate County and City officials that tower maintenance could be provided within mutually available resources. Of greater concern to the officials are the potential questions of liability raised by the towers that to them appear to be 'attractive nuisances'.

Inside the main building are the rooms where BARC and ARES might operate Club stations, train new hams, advance members, explore vistas of radio communications with young and old

alike. In times of emergency we would use these facilities to provide vital community, regional, statewide, and even international communications. All of these elements are hallmarks of amateur radio in Pitt County. Two or three of the glassed-in studios would provide ample space for these needs. They would thus be accessible to the public when in operation or viewed easily when not operating through the ample windows. Adjacent former workrooms should provide ample meeting and classroom needs - as shared with other community needs as a county facility. The total

*(Continued on page 9)*

### ELMER



BY RICH REGENT, K9GDF

Via ARNS Bulletin

## FCC Proposes Rules Changes Affecting Hams

In a sweeping Notice of Proposed Rulemaking the FCC has suggested several rules changes that could affect Amateur Radio, including replacement of the venerable FCC Form 610. NPRM Docket WT 98-20, "To Facilitate the Development and Use of the Universal Licensing System in the Wireless Telecommunications Services," seeks comments on proposals to replace Form 610 with FCC Form 605; to permit automatic reciprocal licensing of foreign hams wishing to operate in the US; to privatize the issuance of club station licenses; and to require applicants and licensees to supply a taxpayer identification number (TIN) and to file electronically. The FCC also plans to consolidate the application procedures for all Wireless Telecommunications Services into a single set of rules. All of these proposals are part of the FCC's efforts to implement the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau's Universal Licensing System (ULS).

The new Form 605 would apply for Amateur Radio and other services "not presently required to submit extensive technical data to receive a license." The Wireless Telecommunications Bureau is trying to drastically cut down the number of forms for the various services it administers, and to include all of its services under the ULS. The FCC last November began initial collection of licensee data to populate the ULS. Using the ULS, applicants and licensees will be able to file, modify, and renew electronically. Ultimately, the FCC intends to require all applicants, as appropriate, to file all applications and notifications electronically.

The FCC says it's tentatively concluded that there is "little or no need to continue issuing the reciprocal permit" (FCC Form 610-AL) for alien amateur licensees because the license from any foreign country with which the

US has a reciprocal agreement would "stand as the proof that the foreign operator is qualified for the reciprocal operating authority." Reciprocal operation under the new regime would be "by rule," which means no special action is necessary on the applicant's part, and the elimination of Form 610-A.

For club station licenses, the FCC proposes to accept the services of VEC-like organizations as volunteer club station call sign administrators. Prospective organizations would have to complete a pilot autogrant batch filing project before being authorized as call sign administrators.

Under the ULS, applicants or licensees would have to supply a TIN, usually a Social Security number, or "its functional equivalent." The FCC says this is "consistent with the requirements of the

**(FCC) "seeks comments on proposals to replace Form 610 with FCC Form 605"**

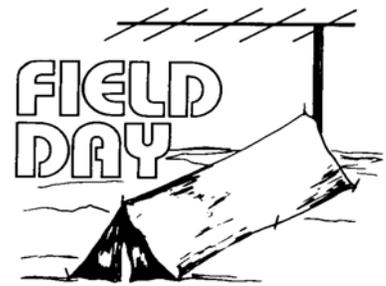
Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996." To allay fears of misuse of TINs, the FCC says the ULS would be designed so that TINs will not be available to the public and "only a small number of Commission employees would have access to TIN information in conjunction with their work." The FCC says a Privacy Act submission would be published in the *Federal Register* "to obtain the requisite public and Congressional comment and Office of Management and Budget approval prior to implementation of the ULS."

A text version of the entire rulemaking proposal is at <http://www.fcc.gov/Bureaus/Wireless/Notices/1998/fcc98025.txt> (or see the link from the FCC home page). The ARRL plans to file comments on the proposal, released March 20. Comments are due to the FCC 30 days after publication in the *Federal Register*. Reference WT Docket 98-20. The FCC will not accept e-mail comments on Docket WT 98-20. - via *ARRL Letter Online* - 3/27/98

## Some Major Changes for Field Day!

Some new rules go into effect this year for Field Day. The popular summertime operating event takes place each year on the fourth full weekend in June. This year, it will be June 27-28.

A major change this year is the elimination of bonus-point credit for packet and VHF/UHF contacts. Field Day stations no longer will be allowed to count contacts via digipeaters, packet nodes, or similar arrangements. Class 2A and higher Field Day stations still may operate a "free" transmitter exclusively for VHF or UHF operation (ie, above 50 MHz) without changing their basic entry classification, but not for bonus points.



"It's better than bonus points, and groups are likely to spend more time on VHF and UHF because of that," predicted ARRL Membership Services Manager Chuck Hutchinson, K8CH. As in the past, crossband and repeater contacts other than via satellite do not count for Field Day credit.

Field Day stations now can earn point credit for digital (ie, non-CW) contacts on each band. The phone, CW, and non-CW digital segments are considered separate "bands" in the Field Day rules. This means, for example, that you now may work the same station for point credit on 40 meters three times: once on SSB, once on CW, and once on RTTY, packet, or one of the TOR modes. SSB contacts count one point, and CW and non-CW digital contacts count 2

*(Continued on page 7)*

## Yakkey-Dee-Yak From Dave, W4YDY

*(Continued from page 3)*

operation at Pitt Count Memorial Hospital. We look forward to her getting well very soon and in circulation again.

I want to thank everyone that has expressed their concerns to me about my sister. She is still in critical condition at this writing. I have been spending four or five days a week in Raleigh at the hospital with her. Therefore, please forgive me for the mistakes and omissions in this month's edition of Ham

Chatter. I have had to do it on weekends and I have not been able to attend the last meeting or the last two board meetings. The Internet version of Ham Chatter may be a week or two late getting published. I hope to get it on by the next meeting date but I can't guarantee it. I will get it up as soon as I can. - W4YDY



## Vanity Fee Could Drop Drastically

The fee to obtain an Amateur Radio vanity call sign would drop drastically under the FCC's proposed fiscal year 1998 fee schedule. If adopted, the new fee will be \$12.90 for the ten-year term, payable at the time of application for a new, renewal or reinstated license.

The new fee is contained in an FCC Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, MD Docket 98-36, Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 1998, released March 25.

The current vanity call sign fee is \$50 for the ten-year term. The FCC says it has no plans to refund the difference between the current fee and the new fee for applicants who submit applications before implementation of the FY 1998 fee schedule.

The FCC has calculated the new fee based on an expected 10,000 applicants during FY 1998. The FCC says it will announce the effective date for the new fee either in the Report and Order that terminates the fee schedule rulemaking proposal or by a public notice. - *via ARRL Letter Online - 4/3/98*

## Dominica DX

In early February this year, two members of BARC, who are now living in SW Virginia joined with another couple, also hams, from Floyd Va. to make a DX expedition to the island of Dominica in the Windward Islands. The trip for Don, KE4UGF, and Kay Clemens, KF4EKH, and Dave, KK4WW, and Gaynell, KF4DMV, Larsen was sponsored in part by FAIRS, (Foundation for Amateur International Radio Service). FAIRS is a non-profit organization designed to help radio clubs in 3rd world countries with donations of equipment and financial aid.

One of the purposes of this trip was to take to the local radio club in Roseau (the capitol of the Commonwealth of

**...sponsored in part by  
FAIRS, (Foundation for  
Amateur International  
Radio Service)**

Dominica) equipment such as 2 meter handy talkies and a check for \$500 from FAIRS. We also carried a 60 pound box of library and reference books donated to the club by ARRL. A copy of "Now You're talking" also donated by ARRL will be placed in the Roseau Public library.

Across the island in Castle Bruce we installed a complete FAIRS donated HF station in the home of a ham living in the village. This station will be highly useful during the hurricane season.

At the present time the hams on Dominica are helping with an impending disaster. A huge land slide (half a mountain side) has blocked a portion of

the Layou River, backing up some of its tributaries and creating a very unstable dam. If this dam gives way it could wipe out several villages in the river valley. The government has asked the hams to monitor the situation 24 hours a day and use their communications to keep the villagers informed.

A fun part of the trip was erecting and making contacts with an antenna Don and Dave had designed and built. It was designed to be broken down into four foot sections to fit as luggage on the plane. It had a home-brew fiberglass

40 ft mast and consisted of 2 elements

monobanders on 20, 17, 15, 10 and 6 meters. Our Alinco DX70 and

Ameritron ALS-500 amplifier brought us over 1400 contacts from all over the world. That was exciting for us as well as fun for many hams who were hearing from Dominica for the first time. The Dominican government was very helpful in getting our Dominican license. They were \$25. each. Our call signs were J79 plus our suffix, i.e. J79EKH. We talked to some hams in the Greenville area and they may remember those calls.

The four of us are hoping other hams will join us in another trip in February next year. Our son, Richard Clemens, KE4UGE, also a member of the Greenville club is planning to go with us.

*(Continued on page 9)*

## Field Day Rule Changes

*(Continued from page 6)*

points apiece, so adding non-CW digital capability presents a real opportunity to rack up substantial additional points! "We're expecting an interesting year because of the digital modes," Hutchinson said.

The complete, official Field Day rules will appear in the May edition of *QST*. Basic Field Day rules have remained unchanged for several years now. The new rules undoubtedly will generate a flurry of computerized contest logging program revisions as developers scramble to incorporate the changes into their software. *via ARRL Letter Online -*

# BARC Monthly Minutes - March 1998

## BARC MONTHLY MEETING March 10, 1997 1930HR. ST. PETER'S SCHOOL

1. Call to Order by Tom Parsons, W4TEP.

2. Introductions / Rollcall / Welcome Visitors.

3. 50/50 Invitation.

4. February Meeting Minutes approved as published in the Ham Chatter.

5. Reports from Officers / Committees / Old Business:

A. Treasurer's Report by Alex Macklin, KC4PHJ. Current Balance \$1458.00 with \$626.23 set aside for equipment. Dues are now past due!!

B. Secretary's Report by Juanita Humbles, KE4JWK: See Newsletters. BARC Dues are due. Still looking for the member that paid there dues in Dec. with Check #2265. You may not receive your Ham Chatter. Please fill out the applications for updates when paying dues. Members with Red Dot labels sent out, will be dropped before the April Issue of *HAM CHATTER* is mailed.

C. President's Report by Tom, W4TEP spoke briefly on the recent DX Contest with many of the bands open.

D. VOA Site C - Paul Fletcher, KS4YF with update on the site and concerns. W. R. Crockett, W3OHF has been hired back by the VOA to assist in transferring the property over to the County. Paul noted the recent news of some wanting to removes all antennas, along with different special interest groups wanting to take over the site for their causes, leaving out the original purposes presented to obtain the site, (such as for a National museum for the VOA and all aspects of Radio Communications over the years, {Ham, Shortwave, Emergency, etc.}). Paul will continue to follow the status of the site and be the voice for the Club and Emergency Communication concerns.

E. The Plaque for 1997 Outgoing President Award for Paul Fletcher, KS4YF was presented to him by Tom on behalf of the Club, with many thanks from all for a job well done.

G. Field Day Chairman - Bernie Nobles, WA4MOK, listed the committee members as follows: Murray Merner, KF4FQB, Juanita Humbles, KE4JWK, Mike Langley, KD4MTT, and Byron Highland, KA4KGZ. Bernie noted a possible site for Field Day this year, the Old Nichols site verses Carolina East Mall, and asked for suggestions from the Club members. Bernie also voiced there will be a Hurricane Conference in Norfolk, Va. on April 7, 1998 from 1:30 to 5:00 PM. All Hams are encouraged to attend.

H. Special Events Committee Chairman, Gary Gasperini, KU4NQ noted the following:

The Shad Festival Special Event Station will be set up by him and Paul, KS4YF on Friday at 5:30 PM, April 3, with Radio operating to start Saturday, April 4th, during Daylight hours.

ECU Purple Pigskin Pigout to be held on April 18th. We still need volunteers for set-up, etc.

The Teddy Bear Safe Walk Event has been changed to May 2, 1998 and needs volunteers with HT's. See Mac Manning, KD4AFL for furthers details and to volunteer.

I. Byron, KA4KGZ passed around the sign-up sheet for Monday Nights' Net Control. See Byron for the latest Protocol.

J. Wayne Ross, WD4JPQ has new ARRL Forms including Message Forms.

K. Murray, KF4FQB with brief note for the Instructors Group. Planning possible Spring and Fall Ham Radio Classes.

L. Byron and Doug Ferris, K4ROK are selling tickets for the upcoming DownEast Hamfest to be held at the Kinston Fairgrounds again this year, on March 22.

M. Reminder to members if you wish to receive the Ham Chatter by E-Mail on the Internet only, then please let Dave Langley, W4YDY or Juanita, KE4JWK know. We will be looking in to how much money can be saved.

6. New Business:

A. Murray, KF4FQB, noted there

will be approximately 272 Seniors graduating this year and they must do a project before graduating, which includes a written paper, a presentation, and a demonstration. This could be a good Ham Radio project to get more youths involve while helping the Seniors.

B. Joe Melton, WB4SLF noted the ENC Repeater Group will hold it annual meeting at King's Restaurant in Kinston net Sunday, March 15. See Joe for details.

C. Paul, KS4YF asking about the May Meeting. Plans are still for a Picnic and a Junk in the Trunk sale. Paul also noted that BARC member, Jim Hoover, KD4MTR has Lymphoma and is being treated with Chemo Tx. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Jim for a speedy recovery.

D. Next VE Session - April 17, 1998 at 6:30 PM, in the Science Classroom at St. Peter's School.

8. 50/50 Drawing: \$30.00 collected, with \$15.00 won by Ed Petrie, KD4IPD.

9. The Meeting was adjourned at 2015hr. by motion of the group.

10. Leftover BARC 31st Anniversary Cake and Ice Cream was served. Tom did note that both had been frozen since the last meeting and the green was the original color on the cake, not from growing mold. (HA! HA!)

11. Tonight's Program: Dan Bartholf, N2RNF from the National Weather Service at Newport, NC spoke on Severe Weather with an in-depth presentation on the causes and effect of El Nino and La Nina. Anyone can check out the interesting sites on the Internet as follows: <http://globe.gsfc.nasa.gov> or <http://www.eastnc.coastalnet.com/weather/nwsmhx/nswweb.htm> or call 1-(252)-223-5739 or visit the NWS at 53 Roberts Road, Newport, NC 28570

Minutes by **Juanita Humbles, KE4JWK**

# 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](mailto:w4ydy@sprintmail.com)

**FOR SALE:**

*QST* - June 1946 - December 1990  
*CQ* - April 1946 - December 1990 (most issues)  
*HAM RADIO* - Some issues  
 73 - Some issues  
 Contact Carlton Moseley, W4YVY  
 1612 Colony Drive  
 Tarboro NC 27886  
 Phone: (252) 823 4757 (3)

**For Sale:** These items are from the estate of Chuck Tucker, AD4ZJ. The items are all in good condition and the prices are negotiable:

- 1 1 Kenwood TS-450 HF transceiver, \$800.00
- 2 1 Yaesu FT 840 HF Rig, \$800.00
- 3 1 Kenwood TM 241A 2 meter rig, \$175.00
- 4 1 Icom Model 322 EH VHF/UHF Dual Bander, \$400.00
- 5 1 JPS Noise Eliminator NIR-10 \$100.00
- 6 1 Astron 12V Power Supply 20 ampere Model RS/VS 20, \$100.00
- 7 1 MFJ Deluxe Versa Tuner II Model 949E, \$100.00
- 8 1 MFJ Versa Tuner Model 941E
- 9 2 York Speakers, \$20.00 each
- 10 1 AB Coaxial Switch Box, \$10.00
- 11 2 Radio Shack SWR Power Tester, \$15.00 each
- 12 1 MFJ 812B SWR meter, \$15.00
- 13 1 CB meter 21-520A 3 Range Power SWR tester, \$ ??

Please contact Brother Simon Jaworski OSF, KQ2V, at 752-3529 (w) or 752-3901 (h) for further information. (3)

## VOA and BARC NETS

*(Continued from page 5)*

dedicated interior space for amateur radio use would likely be about 5 percent, with a shared 10 percent (classroom/meeting room). Further collateral gains for the community would be the likely operational maintenance of the VOA Receiver showpiece - not a trivial undertaking. Additionally, the amateur radio presence would further enhance the county facility as a living museum for radio.

Whether any of these dreams are to be realized or not will be determined by mutual support by BARC members, county officials, and our community - especially its leadership. Living the dream will require the organized efforts of these same people and many more besides. The gains and benefits can never be measured, just like the benefits of VOA itself. We must do these things because they represent the right thing to do - much more than the value of the real estate or even the few acres of potential pulpwood that might otherwise struggle up through these often soggy fields. The days are numbered that BARC will be able to continue using a meeting room at St. Peter's School or a classroom at Pitt Community College - months or years; but numbered. VOA Site C would represent a haven for amateur radio and all it has ever stood for. - *Paul Fletcher, KS4YF*

### 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 and 224.84 MHz
- ◆ Wilson Amateur Radio Club Net, Monday 2030 on 146.76 MHz.
- ◆ Piedmont Coastal Traffic Net, Nightly 2030 on 146.88 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.

## Attorney Named to Head Public Safety and Private Wireless Division

D'wana R. Terry has been named Chief of the Public Safety and Private Wireless Division of the FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB), which oversees the Amateur Service. She has been acting chief since January. Terry earlier served as chief counsel to the WTB chief after serving as a legal advisor. Prior to joining the FCC, Terry was an associate in a communications law practice specializing in mass media regulation.--FCC - via *ARRL Letter Online* - 3/27/98

## Dominica DX

*(Continued from page 7)*

If anyone else is interested contact us or Richard for more details.  
 73s, Kay Clemens, KF4EKH, Email: [DonClemens@swva.net](mailto:DonClemens@swva.net)

# *BARC*

## *CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

April 14 .....	Regular Meeting	June 9. ....	Regular Meeting
April 17 .....	BARC VE Session	June 25*.....	Board Meeting
April 18 .....	Purple Pigskin Pigout	June 27-28 .....	ARRL Field Day
April 25 .....	Farmville Dogwood Festival	July 2* .....	Board Meeting
April 25 .....	Teddy Bear Safe Walk	July 5 .....	Ham Chatter Deadline
April 30*.....	Board Meeting	July 14 .....	Regular Meeting
May 2 .....	International Festival	July 18 .....	Cary Swapfest
May 3 .....	Ham Chatter <b>Deadline</b>	July 30* .....	Board Meeting
May 12 .....	Reg. Meeting - Farmville Cook Out	August 2 .....	Ham Chatter Deadline
May 28*.....	Board Meeting	August 11.....	Regular Meeting
May 30-31.....	CQ WW CW WPX Contest		
May 31 .....	Ham Chatter <b>Deadline</b>	*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

April 1998

To:



PO Box 8387  
 Greenville, NC 27835

**Ham Chatter**