



Ham Chatter



Volume XXXII Issue 12 An Official BARC, W4AMC, Publication December 1998

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Contributing Editor: Murray Merner,

Meet The Member Bob Fainter, KE4UGC



The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club will have its monthly meeting on December 8 at St. Peter's School on 4th Street. Since it's December, the annual BARC Christmas party will be held. Awards and prizes will be presented, but the best part is the fellowship and great food! More info in the article below. All members and guests are invited to attend. The next board meeting is set for December 30. The meeting is open to all members.

I Would Rather Be Devoured By Lions Than Be Nibbled By Rats... KQ2V

For the past few months I have been distracted by the discussion about the many changes proposed concerning the nature of Amateur Radio. The proposal on the part of the ARRL and other VEC organizations within our fraternity that dumbs down the hobby and increases revenues for particular self interests has largely created this distraction. Most recently the ARRL Board of Directors held not one but two meetings to determine League policy in this far reaching action without once soliciting the opinions of the membership in a formal and open fashion.

In a response from Mr. Kanode to my letter, he informed me there was a questionnaire in my Division Newsletter several months ago that he made use of in determining his position and representing mine. Looking back in that document there is no mention made of the far sweeping changes he proposed and voted for in the last two Board meetings... Nibble, nibble, nibble... Recently, it was reported to me by a colleague that opinions concerning the League proposal were solicited on the air by league members (dare I say officials?) after these board meetings occurred while they were talking with their friends on two meters... Nibble, nibble, nibble... I recall an "unofficial" ballot of opinion that appeared in QST last year that went against the conventional wisdom of the

Our recent pleas for members willing to send in MTM forms resulted in an avalanche of responses. So it was only two, but for this column it was an avalanche. Bob, KE4UGC, and Lily, KE4UGD, Fainter heeded the call.

Bob originally hails from Lexington, VA, but has lived in Roanoke; Jacksonville, FL; Winston-Salem, NC; Blacksburg, VA; and Tempe, AZ.

He got his Novice class license in 1963/64 as WN4NAB. Later Jim Hecker, KD4VBX, now a Silent Key, got him re-interested and Bob got licensed January, 1995 as a Tech Plus with his current call.

His equipment consists of: Icom 2GXAT HT, Icom 2710H mobile and an Icom 746 fixed. Antennas are: 2 meter 5/8 ground plane and a G5RV. Operating preferences are 2 meter mobile and the HF Novice bands.

Bob is involved in many BARC and ham activities: Pitt County Skywarn

It's Christmas Party Time!

In place of the regular club meeting on December 8, BARC will be having the annual Christmas party at St. Peter's School that includes the whole family. The annual awards will be given out to those that have made contributions to BARC in 1998. Some of the awards will be Ham of the Year, OM of the Year, YL of the Year and many others.

The festivities will start at 6:30 PM and at 7:00 PM, everyone will enjoy the fine food and beverages brought in by the members. The club will supply the paper plates, etc. Tom Parsons, W4TEP, will coordinate the arrangements. Contact Tom (Phone: 355-2815) for any questions.

If you haven't attended one of the BARC parties, you have missed a good time. Come on out!

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(Continued on page 4)

President's Corner - Tom,



I will begin by wishing all Amateur Radio operators "Happy Holidays" and all the best for 1999. This will be my last newsletter as your president and I would like to thank all of you for your support during the past year. I strongly encourage you to give our incoming regime

the same, if not better, support. You have elected a good team and I have every confidence that they will face the tasks before them with foresight and diligence. I look forward to working with them as a

member of the executive board.

The next BARC meeting will be our annual Christmas Party meeting, which is a pot luck dinner. I have volunteered too coordinate this activity. I would appreciate it if you would notify me as to what, if anything you will be bringing. This is not critical but it would help to avoid duplication. A few individuals have already notified me of the items they will be bringing and you can express your choice by sending me an e-mail, call on the land line or, tweak me on 2-meters when you hear my loud voice sign on. Either way, I'll look forward to seeing you on December 8. This has always been one of the most enjoyable meetings for me as my XYL

...I'll look forward to seeing you on December 8...(at the annual Christmas Party)

graces us with her company. Although she is not a licensed ham she knows most of you from our get togethers during field day and this Christmas party. I know she looks forward to renewing old acquaintances and making new ones. Don't forget to make your spouse (or significant other) a

part of this important occasion.

My final act during the party will be to pass the gavel to Murray Merner, K4MHM, our incoming president. In case you haven't heard, Murray upgraded to "Advanced" at the Benson Hamfest.

Merry Christmas to Ya'll and to Ya'll a good night

73,

Tom, W4TEP

Vanity update:

The FCC in Gettysburg reports it has processed vanity applications received through October 8. The October 29 processing run yielded 177 license grants. Another 248 applications landed in the work-in-process (WIPs) stack. *Via ARRL Letter Online 11/20/98*



Happy Birthday

Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club members birthdays in December.

- | | | |
|----|--------|-----------------|
| 2 | W2YBN | John Mentha |
| 2 | W4YVY | Carlton Moseley |
| 2 | W4ZRA | Rick LaMonica |
| 8 | WB4SLF | Joe Melton |
| 8 | WD4JPQ | Wayne Ross |
| 13 | KC4RBE | June Highland |
| 16 | N8FF | Ken Graf |
| 17 | KF4MHV | Marlin Hardee |
| 19 | KB4FWL | Bob Connelly |
| 31 | KA4DGS | Vashtip Forrest |

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

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT!

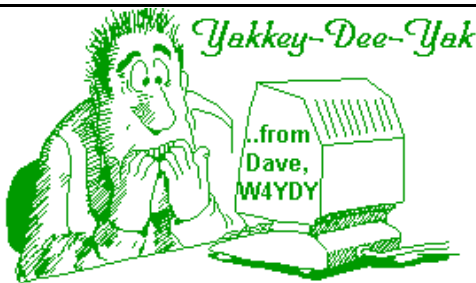


LORDY, LORDY, JUNE HIGHLAND, KC4RBE, IS 40

on December 13! This message courtesy of KA4KGZ!

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I'm sure everyone is very pleased that Brother Simon, KQ2V, will continue to lead the BARC VE team. Be sure to read his article in this month's Ham Chatter.

The American Radio Relay League's proposal to dumb down the Amateur Radio licensing program has many Amateur Radio operators upset and many are happy about it. A lot of the happy ones will be able to get a higher class of license without having to put out much effort if the

ARRL gets its wish. The ARRL wants a maximum 5 WPM code test even for the Extra Class license. If the VE program is not changed to eliminate the written exam for the code test, there will be wholesale cheating in some areas. All they have to do is to get their hands on only one set of code exams and get the 10 answers for each exam. With 13 and 20 WPM tests gone, they would not have to cheat as many times. The only way to completely eliminate the code test exam cheating is to end written exam for code exams. That's what I have let my ARRL Division Director, the ARRL and the FCC know. Before the VE program was started, the only requirement was to copy one minute solid out of the five minute exam. I hope the FCC will listen, because the ARRL is not. They hear, but they also let you know why they are right because they believe if the FCC will make it easier to get a license, Amateur Radio will survive. I disagree. At the direction the ARRL is going, in a few years, Amateur Radio will become like CB radio and there will be so much

...everyone is very pleased that Brother Simon, KQ2V, will continue to lead the BARC VE

breaking of the regulations that the FCC will be overwhelmed. That's when the commercial people will come in and take the bands away from Amateur Radio. Money talks!

I wonder how many BARC club members work any of the many contests on the air every month. If you haven't tried it, you should at least try one time. But there is a danger. You might get hooked! I enjoy working some of the contests for fun. I don't do it to try to win, but just to see how many stations I can contact in just a few hours and help give points to others. A couple of weeks ago, I made 100 contacts and picked up many states and VE sections on 75, 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters in about four hours over a 30-hour contest. It was the ARRL SSB Sweepstakes and it's a great way to get the hard-to-find states. I worked all 50 states one weekend a few years ago.

Only worked 36 in the last contest. I guess all of the contesters that are trying to win get all 50 several times each contest.

Also, it's a lot of fun to work the DX contests. One that can put in enough hours over a 48-hour contest weekend, it is not hard to contact more than 100 countries. I always wanted to get a DXCC award, but I never took the time to make the contacts. After I entered all my logs into a computer log, I found that I had contacted 99 countries from 1952 to 1991. After I moved to Greenville in 1962, I started to work some of the contests. Although I just operated for a few hours in each contest, I had contacted more than 100 countries by 1963 in a couple of contests. I know it's not much for the real contesters, but I enjoy making a few contacts just for fun. When there are pileups, I will try for a max of about five minutes and if I don't have any luck getting in, I just move on and contact other stations. I use a computer log connected to the radio to make time and frequency entries automatically. Having

(Continued on page 7)

A Thanksgiving Poem

Many Thanks

By Kim Paquette, N8YWX

I'm thankful for our net controls,
They run the net on time.
I'm thankful for the treasurer,
He watches every dime!

I'm thankful for the new club call,
For Field Day, it's just great!
I'm thankful for the Christmas Dinner,
And I can hardly wait.

I'm thankful for our Secretary,
She's a woman of many words.
I'm thankful for all the 73s,
That I have ever heard.

I'm thankful for second Tuesdays,
When all the hams do gather
I'm thankful for ol' Mickey D's
Where many gather after.

I'm sure thankful for good ol' PL,
It keeps DX away.
I'm thankful for the autopatch,
Some are thankful every day!

I'm thankful for the WB*
He keeps QRM low.
I'm thankful for the hams,
We meet wherever we go.

I'm thankful for my radio,
And I always have it with me.
And though I've never used it,
I'm even thankful for RTTY.

* A cryptic reference to her husband,
Jerry, WB8IOW --Ed

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Via ARRL Letter Online 11/20/98

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE BRIGHTLEAF AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, P. O. BOX 8387, GREENVILLE, NC 27835 □ MATERIAL CONTAINED HEREIN MAY BE REPRINTED WITHOUT PRIOR PERMISSION WITH CREDIT GIVEN TO THIS PUBLICATION □ PRESIDENT - TOM PARSONS, W4TEP, 355-2815 □ FIRST V. PRESIDENT - MURRAY MERNER, K4MHM, 757-3429 □ SECOND V. PRESIDENT - GENE UNDERWOOD, KE4JZU, 746-6964 □ SECRETARY - JUANITA HUMBLE, KE4JWK, 355-1051 □ TREASURER - ALEX MACKLIN, KC4PHJ, 752-2231 □ BOARD MEMBER - PAUL FLETCHER, KS4YF, 756-6985 □ BOARD MEMBER - GARY GASPERINI, KU4NQ, 758-8101 □ HAM CHATTER & WEB SITE EDITOR - DAVE LANGLEY, W4YDY, 321-2525 □ CONTRIBUTING EDITOR - MURRAY MERNER, K4MHM, 757-3429 □ OPINIONS BY WRITERS MAY NOT

I Would Rather Be Devoured By Lions Than Be Nibbled By Rats...

(Continued from page 1)

board (to dumb down). It was labeled as informal and unreliable. Again... nibble, nibble, nibble... As a result of all of this nibbling, the directors voted what they wanted without properly soliciting the opinions of the larger membership. hey stated they had to make the hard decision for the good of Ham Radio. Our most recent national elections reflect the same arrogance of knowing what's right for all of us while ignoring the electorate... Nibble, nibble, nibble... And lastly are the nibblers who have tried to circumvent the necessity of mastering all of the elements that are required for earning an amateur license. In the last year or so, I have come to learn that eastern North Carolina is no different in this regard from many other areas in the country. Again, nibble, nibble, nibble...

Two months ago I resigned my membership in the League after almost 30 years and considered doing the same concerning my involvement in the volunteer examiners program. The decision to resign has been determined essentially by the nibblers in our hobby and is of a private nature. My second decision to resign the VE program has a more public side to it.

I have been involved in the Volunteer Examiners program since 1984 starting in the Hudson Division and since 1990, here in Greenville. In that period of time I have acted as the VE liaison for the Brightleaf Club and as an Extra Class

examiner in all but 2 sessions sponsored by BARC since 1990. In that time, BARC has conducted 57 testing sessions serving 506 examinees, administering 912 test elements. These sessions have resulted in 246 new licenses or upgrades. In the time since 1990, there have been 3 Extra Class licenses, 20 Advanced Class licenses, 35 General Class licenses, 58 Tech Plus licenses, 127 Technician Class licenses and 3 Novice Class licenses issued by the FCC due to this testing. I have also participated in VE sessions in Kinston, Smithfield, Little Washington and Fort Barnwell.

In all of these sessions, the

...I resigned my membership in the League after almost 30 years...

examiners have been most diligent in making sure the scrutiny of the examination process has been without reproach. I have a special affection for the VE examiners who have participated in the testing process over the years, especially the Extra Class licensees who attended every session so that we could test beyond the Tech Plus license. Unfortunately, in recent years, some have moved away and some have passed on. Presently, there are only 4 Extra Class VE's who have been active in giving

these tests in the last two or three years. This is woefully inadequate. Alas, from what I understand, this is an ongoing problem for many other clubs as well.

I have a particular aversion for all nibblers. In my best analysis, they do not belong in the hobby. Some amateurs have expressed an opinion that if the BARC test sessions are halted here in Greenville, then the local nibblers will have won the day. Others have expressed their concern and hope that these sessions continue and that I continue to be part of them. Discussing this with Dave, W4YDY, yesterday on two meters and having our conversation interfered with, I decided to continue to rail against the nibblers. I will remain outside the League because I do not see them as truly representative of our hobby, but I will remain active on a local level by continuing my involvement in the BARC testing sessions. I hope that my involvement will add to the fine reputation that my fellow examiners have earned through their diligence and fairness. Having said that, there are some issues which the club should consider concerning the VE program. To wit, we need more examiners and we need more higher class license to volunteer their time in this vital area.

In closing, I would like to quote N6WR, who recently opined concerning the dumbing down process. He wrote, "Granted, CW is not easy. Nothing worthwhile comes without effort. But, that is what sets the Amateur Radio operator apart. They took the difficult path. No whining. The goal was attacked with vigor and fervor." and "One League official wrote how the amateur is being left behind technically. Not so. Among those employed in electronics there are Hams at the top who

BARC Survey Form

BARC members are requested to fill out the two page survey on pages 5 and 6. Return it to Murray Merner, K4MHM, (BARC 1999 President) at the Christmas party or any other way that is easy for you.

Murray is looking for input to improve the club and make it even more fun, more educational and more responsive to public service and Amateur Radio than it has been. BARC is and has been a very good club, but new ideas are always welcome and appreciated.

Next VE Session December 18

The next Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club VE session will be held on December 18. Exams will be held at St. Peter's School on 4th Street. Exams will start promptly at 6:30 PM. - KQ2V Please bring the following:

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



Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club 1999 Member Survey

The club officers and committee chairpersons need to know what you think so we are going in the right direction. Remember, this club is what *you* make it. Bring your surveys to the December 8 meeting (Christmas Party) or mail to me so we can discuss at the January meeting.) Thanks, Murray, K4MHM

Name: _____ Callsign: _____

1. What do you think the goals of BARC should be for 1999?
 - A. Long Term Goals (many months, a year to years in the future - think big)
 - B. Short Term Goals (many weeks to a few months)
 - C. Immediate Goals (days to a few weeks)

2. What activities/events would you be able to participate in?

<input type="checkbox"/> A. Field Day	<input type="checkbox"/> B. Greenville International Festival
<input type="checkbox"/> C. Grifton Shad Festival	<input type="checkbox"/> D. Farmville Dogwood Festival
<input type="checkbox"/> E. Ayden Collard Festival	<input type="checkbox"/> F. Winterville Watermelon Festival
<input type="checkbox"/> G. Greenville Christmas Parade	<input type="checkbox"/> H. Teddy Bear Walk
<input type="checkbox"/> I. Jamboree-On-The-Air	<input type="checkbox"/> J. Adopt-a-Highway
<input type="checkbox"/> K. ECU Purple and Gold Pigskin Pigout	
<input type="checkbox"/> L. VOA Site C (we could use our W1VOA call sign!)	
<input type="checkbox"/> N. Other activities: _____	

3. What of the above activities/events would you be willing to coordinate?

4. What training are you interested in?

<input type="checkbox"/> A. Skywarn	<input type="checkbox"/> B. Red Cross Disaster
<input type="checkbox"/> C. Other training: _____	

5. What changes need to be made to make BARC a better club and make our members more active?

Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club 1999 Member Survey

6. What changes need to be made to have BARC meet your needs more?
7. Would you be willing to be an instructor for the new ham class? __ yes __ no
8. Do you have an interest in being an Elmer? __ yes __ no
9. Would you be willing to help with the writing of Ham Chatter? __ yes __ no
10. Are you interested in upgrading? __ no __ yes (Class you are now _____)
11. Club dues are now \$15.00 per year. We are just barely getting by what do you think about a dues increase? __ no increase __ increase (By how much _____)
12. What other ideas do you have about increasing our funds?
13. What equipment do you think we need?
14. What kind of programs do you want at the meetings?
15. What do you think we need to do to let more people know about ham radio and BARC?
16. What do you think we can do to recruit more hams and members?
17. Would you go to VOA Site C for?
A. meetings __ yes __ no B. special events __ yes __ no
C. training/classes __ yes __ no
18. Would you be willing to be a Volunteer Examiner (need to meet FCC/ARRL requirements)?
__ yes __ no
19. What intra club contests that would be interesting and you would participate in?
20. Other opinions/comments (You are welcome to make anonymous comments on other paper and send in separately.):

Meet The Member - Bob Fainter, KE4UGC

(Continued from page 1)

Emergency Coordinator, ARES, various ad hoc committees such as constitution, VOA Site C, Absentee Ballot, and will be serving as our Treasurer for 1999.

Bob has a varied academic and vocational background. He received his Ph.D. in Computer Science in 1985, and has a Masters in Computer Science (1981) and a Bachelors in Mathematics (1977).

Equally impressive is Bob's work history. He is currently an Instructional Technologist at the ECU School of Allied Health Sciences. From

1969-73 he was in the Air Force as a Still Photographic Laboratory Specialist; 1972-74 a flight instructor and charter pilot; 1974-75 a radio announcer with WSJS/WTQR in Winston-Salem; 1985-1995 a professor of computer science, and 1995-1998 a software engineer consultant.

Other interests include: flying, traveling, baseball and photography.

Bob is married to the aforementioned Lily and they have a cat, Chessie, who has refused to get a ham license. We'll find out about Lily next month. - *K4MHM*

Yakkey-Dee-Yak

(Continued from page 3)

a computer log also makes it easy to get the log ready to send in for listing in the magazines, but one can have just as much fun using pencil and paper. Just ask Brother Simon, KQ2V. He said he used pencil and paper about a month ago in the ARRL CW Sweepstakes contest and had a good time. I think he operated about half the time I did and he made twice as many contacts on CW as I did on SSB! That CW stuff is fast!

The ARRL 10 meter contest is on December 12-13. The band is getting hot now, so it would be a good time to pick up some new countries. Try it. You just might like it! - *W4YDY*

ECFS replaces RIPS


Editors note: This info should be of help to those that file comments to the FCC on rulemaking proceedings. - W4YDY

As of October 26, the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) has replaced the Record Imaging Processing System (RIPS) as the main source for copies of documents filed in docketed and rulemaking proceedings. The public can view all ECFS documents at <http://www.fcc.gov/e-file/ecfs.html>. The public also can file comments electronically in unrestricted rulemaking and docketed proceedings. The ECFS is designed for use with Netscape ver 3 or higher or Internet Explorer ver 3 or higher. The FCC plans to add an FAQ page to ECFS to make the system more user-friendly. For more information about using this system, contact Patricia Rawlings, prawling@fcc.gov; 202-418-0294. For more information about filing comments, contact Magalie Salas, msalas@fcc.gov or Bill Caton, wcaton@fcc.gov, 202-418-0300. - *Via ARRL Letter Online 11/20/98*



K4KBB

J & P Machine Works, Inc.

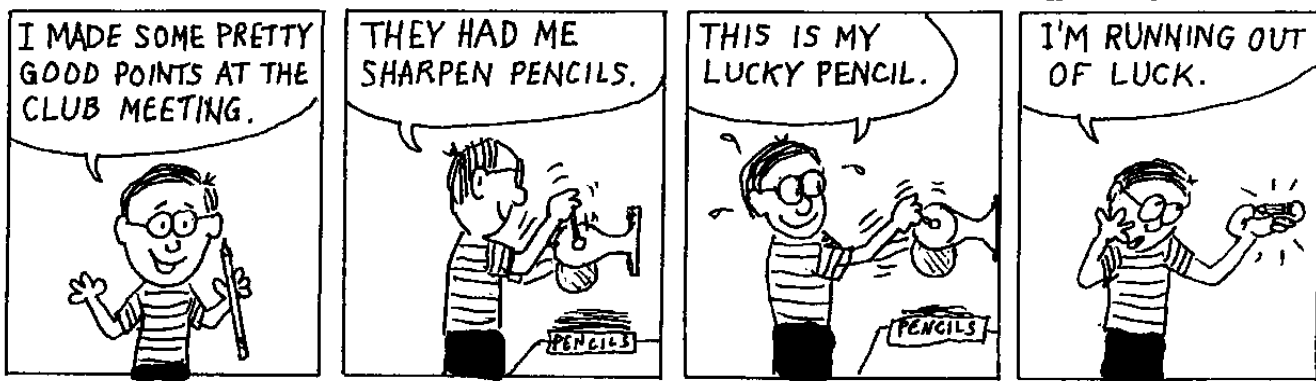


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by Rich Regent, K9GDF



Via ARNS Bulletin

BARC Monthly Minutes - November 1998

BARC MONTHLY MEETING
NOVEMBER 10, 1998 1930HR.
ST. PETER'S SCHOOL

1. Call to Order by Tom Parsons, W4TEP.

2. 50/50 Invitation.

3. Introductions.

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

5. Reports from Officers / Committees:

A. Treasurer's Report by Alex Macklin, KC4PHJ - Balance \$606.73 with \$261.28 set aside for new equipment and maintenance.

B. Secretary's Report by Juanita Humbles, KE4JWK: See Newsletters and AES Catalog. Bob Connelly's mother was recently in the Hospital Emergency Dept., we wish her well.

C. President's Report by Tom, W4TEP - The Proctor & Gamble Grant, still awaiting check. Tom recognized John McCoy, K4KBB, and Murray Merner, K4MHM, for their participation in the Scout's Jamboree-On-The-Air and presented each a badge.

D. VOA Site C - Bob Fainter, KE4UGC, with comments for Paul Fletcher, KS4YF. Paul had voiced concerns if the Club moves to Site C, would members drive out to the site or not attend due to the distance. Paul is looking for feedback. James Eubanks, KD4JOV, voice concerns with rides to and from site. Please let Paul know of your concerns and opinions.

E. Absentee Ballot - No new info.

F. Special Service Club Status - No new info.

G. Special Events - JOTA results by Tom.

H. Health and Welfare - Murray Merner, K4MHM - Noted the passing of Frank Tate, W4OCT's wife with a Sympathy card sent.

I. Instructor Group - Murray, K4MHM - New Ham Radio Class has 15 students varying in age. Two of the students attend St. Peter's and the girls are good at Morse Code. The Class has been very energetic and fun. Murray is looking for code oscillators for the Class.

Also, Murray is asking for volunteers to let the students visit their Ham Shacks, to get an idea of the various shacks, and to see the different equipment Hams use.

J. Programs - Tonight - Vote on BARC 1998 Awards and the ARRL Tour Tape to be presented by Murray, K4MHM.

December - Christmas Party and Awards on Dec. 8th at 6:30PM in the Library at St. Peter's School. Tom, W4TEP to chair. The food will be Pot Luck. Please let Tom know what you can bring. The Club will provide paper products. Bring your own drink also.

K. ARES - Doug Ferris, K4ROK, with PCMH Update - Still waiting for the Mosley Antenna. Towers erected on the Penthouse less than satisfactory. The Hospital has committed to get Murray Adams, WA4DAN, to get proper hardware and correctly install the Towers. Lost the Emergency Ham Radio room and awaiting word from Buck Sitterson, WA4MDZ, PCMH V. P., of new location. Mike Langley, KD4MTT, noted ARRL Bulletin sent out for Hams not to use 14.265 +/- 3 MHz of this frequency, due to it being used for the Honduras Emergency Traffic since Hurricane Mitch.

6. Outstanding Business:

A. Fund Raiser - Still waiting for Grant Check. Tom asked, do we want to go on and have a raffle? Pros and Cons voiced; Alex, Bob, Mike, and Jim Smith, KF4VHH. After discussion, due to the time of year and risks of not having seed money, the Raffle will be tabled until the New Year.

B. Club Equipment Insurance - no comments.

C. Return of Club Equipment - All equipment to be returned for Inventory. Looking for the HF Rig and the ICOM 2 Meter. Gary Gasperini, KU4NQ, has the HF Rig and voiced per phone earlier will return it this week. Bernie Nobles, WA4MOK, is noted to have the ICOM Rig and is having it adjusted. Ken Graf, N8FF asked to borrow the HF Rig. After discussion by the group and a motion by Alex and Doug to let Ken use the Radio, a formal

motion was set by James and Bob to let Ken be the Club's custodian of the HF Rig when Gary returns it. The motion was approved by the group present. Ken voiced appreciation to the group.

7. New Business:

A. VE Session - next session to be held at St. Peter's on Dec. 18, 1998 at 6:30PM. Brother Simon Jaworski, KQ2V has indicated that Dec. may be his last coordinated VE Session. If Brother Simon does not decide to continue this, then we need as Extra Class License Ham to take over the VE Sessions' responsibilities.

B. Christmas Party Gifts - there is \$100.00 allocated in the budget for Gifts for the Party. Looking for volunteers to get discounted items from local merchants for the Party. Murray will going to the Benson Hamfest and will look into items there. Juanita asked if Byron Highland, KA4KGZ is back in town and maybe he can get the gift certificates again like last year?

C. Murray with reminder of next two Board Meetings to be held on Dec. 3rd at 7:30PM at Tom's house for Christmas Party and on Dec. 30th at 7:30PM at St. Peter's School for the Transition of New Officers and the January Meeting. Murray also asking all members to fill out the Meet the Member Form and send it in. Forms are available from Murray, Dave, or you can get it off the BARC Web Site.

8. Others Concerns:

A. Mike, KD4MTT looking for Monday Night ARES Net Controls for the net three weeks.

B. Doug, K4ROK looking for a copy of the Newspaper announcement placed for the S.E.T. held in October.

9. 50/50 Drawing: \$20.00 collected with \$10.00 won by Bob Fainter, KE4UGC in which he donated it back to the club.

10. The Meeting was adjourned at 2018hr. by motion of the group present.

11. Tonight's Program: Voting for 1998 Awards, then Murray Merner, K4MHM presenting the ARRL Tour VHS Tape and spoke on his visit there.

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

FOR SALE:

Kenwood TS-60 All Mode, 6 Meter Rig, 100 watts, in mint condition. Asking Price - \$725.00 but will negotiate. (2) Call Ken Graf @ 321-4824.

WANTED:

Murray, K4MHM, is looking for: 2 meter mobile rig, a Mosley TA33, Jr. beam and a base for a Rohn 25 tower. Call 757-3429

K4MHM Upgrades



BARC President-elect Murray Merner, K4MHM, went to Benson in November and upgraded to Advanced Class. Now it's on to Amateur Extra! Congratulations Murray, from all BARC members.

Be sure to fill out and turn in the survey form on pages 5 and 6 of this Ham Chatter. Murray is looking for your input so the club can continue to grow and help out with community service. The club is an excellent way to get more out of the greatest hobby in the world. Nothing else gives on the opportunity to make many friends all over the world in in you own community.

FCC Aside Extra

The FCC has notified four individuals that it is setting aside their recent Extra Class license grants and privileges while it investigates alleged irregularities in the volunteer examination process. Letters from the FCC went out November 10 to Elmer J. Smith, N3UNR, of Effort, Pennsylvania; Philip DiGenova, N3UNS, of Bartonsville, Pennsylvania; Wayne S. Bowden, AA3RT, of Millsboro, Delaware; and Kenneth L. Sharp, AA3RU, of Boyertown, Pennsylvania, that the Commission was setting aside their Extra Class grants. All four individuals were requested to return their Extra Class license documents and Certificates of Successful Completion of Examination (CSCEs) to the FCC's Gettysburg office.

"This letter is not a finding that you have engaged in misconduct," the letter said, adding that if the FCC's investigation concludes that it should grant the Extra Class license applications, it will reinstate the grants.

An FCC official said the investigation was looking into testing irregularities including allegations that examinees might have been coached or given test answers. "They are bumped back for now while we investigate, since we had enough evidence at the outset to do that," he said.

For the time being at least, Smith and DiGenova have been bumped back to Technician class licensees, while Sharp will revert to Advanced class and his former N3TPN call sign. All three took their examinations October 6 at a W5YI-VEC session in Warminster, Pennsylvania. Bowden apparently never held a ham ticket prior to taking the examination elements for Extra Class at Spring City, Pennsylvania, on October 4 during a W5YI-VEC testing session. The call sign AA3RT no longer appears in the FCC database. The records of the other three amateurs involved were modified November 10. - *Via ARRL Letter Online 11/20/98*

Sets Four Class

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NETS

VHF

- ◆ BARC Net, Mondays, 2000 on 147.09 MHz, W4GDF Repeater.
- ◆ Pitt County Emergency Communications Net, Mondays, 2100 on 147.09 MHz. (131.8 Hz Tone)
- ◆ Eastern North Carolina Traffic Net, Every night, 2030 on 146.685 MHz.
- ◆ New Bern Amateur Radio Club/ Eastern NC 220 Association for the WD4JMS & WA4DAN 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.

NTS CW Nets

- ◆ 3.715 1800 hours, slow speed (5-10 wpm)
- ◆ 3.573 1900 hours, high speed (20 wpm)
- ◆ 3.573 2200 hours, slow speed (12-14 wpm), South Carolina/North Carolina

BARC

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 5	Greensboro Hamfest	February 9	Regular Meeting
December 8	Annual BARC Christmas Party	February 20-21	ARRL CW DX Contest
December 12-13	ARRL 10M Contest	February 25	Board Meeting
December 18.	VE Session	February 27-28	CQ WW SSB 160M Contest
December 30.	Board Meeting	February 28	Ham Chatter Deadline
January 1	ARRL Straight Key Night	March 6-7	ARRL SSB DX Contest
January 3	Ham Chatter Deadline	March 9.	Regular Meeting
January 12	Regular Meeting	March 27-28.	CQ WW SSB WPX Contest
January 23-24.	ARRL VHF Sweepstakes	April 1.	Board Meeting
January 28	Board Meeting*	April 4.	Ham Chatter Deadline
January 30-31	CQ WW CW 160M Contest	April 13.	Regular Meeting
January 31	Ham Chatter Deadline	April 29.	Board Meeting

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 STATIONS

W 4 A M C - W I V O A

December 1998

Merry Christmas

To:



PO Box 8387
 Greenville, NC 27835

Ham Chatter