



# Ham Chatter



Volume XXXIII Issue 8 An Official BARC, W4AMC, Publication August 1999

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## Meet The Member Walt Verdick, KA4WFS



Captured Video Photo by W4YDY

Walt was born in Tuckahoe, NY and spent most of his life in Larchmont, NY (just 21 minutes north of Times Square). He got interested in ham radio as a teenager because his sister's boyfriend was a ham. In the days of vacuum tubes and copper wire, he build some receivers. He was even a member of a ham radio club in high school, but was too busy to get his license. His interests were elsewhere - he had a dance band playing the saxophone and clarinet. The "Top Hatters" played a lot of high school dances, but he didn't play for his own graduation. Les Brown played that gig.

After graduating from high school in 1938, Walt went to work at Sikorsky's where they made the Corsair airplane for England which was embroiled in war. When the US entered the war, Walt was drafted into the Army Air Corps. After his basic training in Atlantic City, he went to Aeronautics

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## Next Meeting

*The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club will have its monthly meeting on August 10 at 7:30 PM at St. Peter's School on 5th Street. Alan Hoffman, WNCT-TV News anchorman, will be visiting to talk to members. The program will be announced later. All members and guests are invited to attend.*

*The next board meeting is set for August 31 at 7:00 PM. The meeting is open to all*

## New Internet Site For Brightleaf ARC

The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club Internet site has been added to the QSL.NET server. The new URL or address is <http://www.qsl.net/w4amc/>. The address is also printed at the top of all inside pages of Ham Chatter. The club call sign was selected for the address because BARC was already in use. The home page on GeoCities will be maintained until further notice with links over to QSL.NET. All pages except for the home page on GeoCities will automatically change to the QSL.NET

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## APRS (Automatic Position Reporting System) Seminar - August 7

There will be an APRS (Automatic Position Reporting System) seminar sponsored by Pitt County ARES to be held Saturday, August 7 at the Belk Building on ECU Campus. This is the same location the recent Skywarn classes were held.

APRS can be summed up with two concepts, REAL-TIME PACKET TACTICAL COMMUNICATIONS and MAPS. It is basically a packet network with MAP display for many exciting Amateur Radio applications: Network topology monitoring, AMSAT ground station tracking, Special Event tracker/organizer, boat/mobile/RV/bikeathon tracker, weather tracking/reporting, search and rescue. Weather data access will be covered in depth.

Our presentation will cover what APRS can do for you and how to use it followed by an in-depth presentation for the technical enthusiast on how-to-do-it.

Anyone with access to the internet can connect to this exciting wealth of information. All amateur radio operators can contribute to the input of

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## Ham Chatter Deadline September 1

Deadline for the September issue of Ham Chatter will be Wednesday, September 1. This is due to the fact that the editor will be 'drooling' at the Shelby Hamfest over the Labor Day weekend.

# President's Corner - Murray,

This is the time of the summer doldrums. Not much is going on. The meeting with the Kinston club was informative and enjoyable. The impressive program by Kip Campbell, K1PEB, of NC Public Television gave us a view of the TV that's coming. While being complicated and expensive, the technology will add to the utilization and quality of TV. Of course, it also has the potential for spreading the "wasteland" a bit further. While not being a Luddite, it seems to me that technology, especially communication technology, does not significantly add to the quality of our lives that it promises.

Maybe it's not the technology where the bottleneck lies, but in ourselves. Our attitudes, prejudices, egos and histories become more limiting than being able to communicate more quickly, convenient or globally. No matter how or where we travel, in person or over the RF, we always take ourselves along. I'd trade a few TV channels, bauds of modem speed, or DSP for more understanding and cooperation. Digital TV is on its way and it looks impressive; I just hope it will have a positive impact on who we are.

Many of the BARC members were impressed with the hospitality of the Kinston club and president Ron Knapp, W9EF. They certainly are a fine bunch of hams. I look forward to combined meetings in the future. Next time we'll have to be the host. The desert did not go unnoticed - or uneaten. Some BARC members have suggested we do the same. That's a great idea, but I for one would be looking for a larger belt. On the other hand, maybe we should look at that aspect of our meeting.

## A New Ham Class is to start September 9.

The program will be announced later for our August meeting on the 10th. Allen Hoffman of WNCT-TV Channel 9 will also be attending. This is an opportunity for the community to express its opinion to the media. Hopefully, Allen will get an idea of who BARC is and you will be able to make your concerns known to him.

A New Ham Class is to start Sep 9. All but one of the students from the previous class got their license and became members of BARC. It's no mystery that the class is a major source of new hams and new members. The team teaching approach shares the load - and the opportunity. We have a great group of instructors; a lot of time and effort goes into teaching and the club appreciates it.

JOTA will be Oct 16 and 17 this year. Tom, W4TEP, is planning a camp out those days. We will be set up for operation only on the Saturday probably ending it before dark. This is another good opportunity to introduce the younger crowd to amateur radio. Let Tom know if you can give a hand.

"Good things come to those who wait." And wait we did for the lost check from Proctor and Gamble. It paid off, not only did we get the original \$500 check, we got a second one from separate fiscal period. Major thanks to Billy, KC4HHW, for advocating for BARC and hanging in there. Now it is time for us to get creative and energetic and use that money for some good fund raisers.

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## Happy Birthday

Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club members birthdays in August.

18	KS4O	Mac Whitehurst
19	KS4YF	Paul Fletcher
20	KE4SQI	David LeMoine
30	KE4LQQ	Chester Robins
31	KD4NNA	Pat Sutton

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

## New BARC Members

The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club welcomed two new members in July. They are Elke Maxwell, KG4DVX, and her OM, Mack from Ayden. Elke completed requirements for the Technician Class license at the BARC June VE session. It shouldn't be too long before Mack is licensed! Welcome to

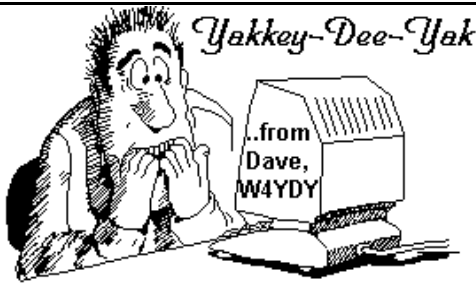
## Well Wishes

Thoughts and Prayers got out to Bonnie Pulver, KG4CZW, who was in an auto accident. She was bruised and battered but she is doing better now and back to work. Someone ran a stoplight and turned her vehicle over.



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*Yakkey-Dee-Yak*

Way back in the October 1987 issue of Ham Chatter, I wrote about the way the bands were being ruined by a few operators using profanity and vulgarity on the air. For years, it seemed that the FCC had completely overlooked enforcing the laws on the Amateur Radio bands and just listening around some of the frequencies, you could see the results of the laws not being enforced. About a year later in October 1998, a fellow named Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, started the enforcement effort in earnest. He said that the Compliance and Information Bureau (CIB) was being as creative with enforcement as some of the operators that they are going after. He has become a very popular fellow to most in the Amateur

Radio world. There are a few out there are probably very upset, because they have been caught in a situation of their own making.

At the Dayton Hamvention, he said some 150 warning letters had been sent out and in about three fourths of the cases, the letters resolved the problem. The CIB is making extensive use of tape recordings, WAV files and other evidence sent in by amateurs, such as the Official Observer group. The FCC is stepping up station inspections where needed, checking into nets and retesting amateurs that have been questioned about their exams.

Riley is very concerned about the problems on 75 meters and he is working on the 75 meter problem. I have heard more profanity on 75 meter than any other band. But I was listening to 20 meters a couple of weeks ago and I heard an 'operator' in New York in

conversation with a 'friend' and he was using profanity in almost every sentence. He didn't seem upset but was just talking in a normal manner. Evidently he didn't have any brains because he couldn't put a sentence together like a normal person.

When the FCC takes action against violators, they release the information because it is public information. On a space available basis, I will continue to publish as much as possible in *Ham Chatter*. I have had some nice comments about *Ham Chatter* and I do thank you. Most of the readers comments about the articles in *Ham Chatter* were about the FCC actions taken against lawbreakers. Several commented that they always read about the FCC actions first. As at the Dayton Hamvention, most Amateur Radio operators are tired of the lawbreakers and applaud Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, and the FCC for their enforcement actions. I was very pleased when I learned the FCC meant business.

Two items, the BARC brochure and the schedule for the new Amateur Radio classes were added to the BARC Internet site on July 30. If you know of anyone that wants to get an Amateur Radio license and has been putting it off, now is a good chance to learn with others. The class starts September 9 and runs until November 11.

Murray Merner, K4MHM, is heading the effort and the instructors are BARC members WA4SLC, KU4NQ, KD4MTT, K4KBB, WD4JPQ, WA4MOK, W4YDY, K4MHM and KE4UGC. WA4SLC and WA4MOK will teach on two nights each. Ken Graf, N8FF, will teach Morse Code for thirty minutes after the two hour class session. The class schedule is at <http://www.qsl.net/w4amc/hamclass.html>. - W4YDY

## New Internet Site For Brightleaf ARC

*(Continued from page 1)*

site in five seconds if you don't do it sooner. Everyone should update their bookmarks and links to <http://www.qsl.net/w4amc/>. All new pages added to the BARC Internet site will be put on QSL.NET only with links from the GeoCities site.

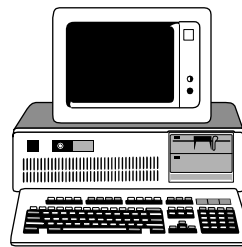
QSL.NET is an Amateur Radio only server and all sites must be Amateur Radio related. There is a list on QSL.NET of all web sites located on their server. QSL.NET is owned and operated by Al Waller, K3TKJ, Laurel, Delaware, as a service to Amateur Radio and it is paid for by K3TKJ personally and user donations. Donations are not required but ten dollars per year is adequate to operate the expensive system.

The new site will load faster due to no popup ads added by the server. Also, there are no banner ads allowed therefore there are no "cookies" put on your computer.

Any commercial pages will be deleted by the server without warning.

Another feature of QSL.NET is the assignment of an email address for W4AMC. The email address is [w4amc@qsl.net](mailto:w4amc@qsl.net). At present all mail to that address will be forwarded to the webmaster, W4YDY. Mail sent to other club members via W4AMC will be forwarded.

Also note that the W4YDY Internet site has also moved over to QSL.NET. The GeoCities site will also be maintained for some time with links over to the new site. That address is <http://www.qsl.net/w4ydy/>. Please update your bookmarks to the new addresses.



### very concerned about the problems on 75 meters

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## FCC'S Hollingsworth Clarifies Stand On Multiple Call Signs

The FCC's top Amateur Radio enforcer, Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, says the Commission won't be targeting clubs with multiple call signs unless the FCC has reason to believe that there's been abuse of the licensing process. Clubs holding multiple call signs for reasonably legitimate purposes need not worry that the FCC will take back their call signs, he said.

"We're only concerned about abuse of the licensing process," Hollingsworth told the ARRL. "I'm only concerned about those who 'work' the system, eating up keying time with our processors with no apparent purpose other than to squirrel call signs or scarf up vanity call signs." Hollingsworth has said that in an era of tight budgets and smaller staffs, the FCC needs to minimize its administrative workload that sometimes includes manually keying in information for amateur applications.

### Clubs holding multiple call signs for reasonably legitimate purposes need not

Hollingsworth concedes that the FCC rules place no upper limit on the number of club station call signs a club may hold.

Some trustees of clubs with multiple call signs for packet nodes or individual repeaters have expressed concerns that their call signs might be the targets of the FCC's recent initiative to

reduce what's sometimes called call sign "warehousing" or "hoarding."

Recently, the trustee of some three dozen club station call signs agreed to give up all but one of them. Hollingsworth also has inquired of several other individuals listed as responsible parties for multiple call signs--including several members of the same family in California--and has asked the licensees to justify the grants. - via *ARRL Letter Online* 7/9/99

## New And Improved FCC Web Site

The FCC's Web site has a completely new look to go along with its move to The Portals. The new site, still at <http://www.fcc.gov>, features an image of the FCC's new home and logo and contains more graphics. Current news "headlines" are in a highlighted box that runs down the middle of the home page, while the lefthand part of the screen is devoted mainly to comments (a video clip also is available) by FCC Chairman William Kennard. The righthand side of the screen focuses on "major initiatives," such as the V-chip, area codes, "parents, kids, and communications," and other hot topics. Clicking on the associated image or headline takes you to a page on the subject. Unchanged (so far at least) is the FCC's Amateur Radio page at <http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/amateur/>. Comments and suggestions on the updated site go to Sheryl Segal, [ssegal@fcc.gov](mailto:ssegal@fcc.gov). - via *ARRL Letter Online* 7/16/99



## FCC Audits New York Examination Session

The FCC is auditing an Amateur Radio examination session held May 2, 1999, in Yonkers, New York, and has written four applicants to ask some very specific questions.

Those questioned about the ARRL-VEC examination session included an individual applying to upgrade to Amateur Extra, one upgrading to Advanced, one to Tech Plus, and one seeking a new Technician license. The letters, all from the FCC's Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, of the FCC's Compliance and Information Bureau note that the FCC has "not made a finding that you engaged in misconduct."

Hollingsworth invoked the FCC's authority "to request information from licensees and applications that the Commission needs in order to determine whether a licensee is qualified to retain a

license, or whether an applicant should be granted a license."

In the case of the Extra, Advanced and Technician class applicants, the FCC enclosed a color copy of the answer sheets for the written exam, signed by the applicant, and questioned the appearance of blue markings on the answer sheets. Among other specific questions, the FCC asked which marks the applicants had placed on the answer sheets and if any marks already were on the sheet when it was handed out.

The FCC similarly queried the Tech Plus upgrade candidate about his Morse code answer sheet, asking if it was the only one he'd filled out on May 2 and if any of the answers were modified after he'd turned in the sheet; others who took code tests were asked if they had written

down any of their copy, and, if so, what they did with those notes.

An applicant who supplied a Michigan mailing address was asked if he was present at the session, and if he'd had access to an answer template before or during the test session. All four applicants also were asked to name the Volunteer Examiners who handed out their paperwork and to whom they gave their completed answer sheets, as well as any discussions they might have had with the examiners.

All applicants were given 30 days to respond to the questions or risk having the FCC dismiss their pending applications. - via *ARRL Letter Online* 7/30/99

## WB2OTK Tells FCC Cancellation Request Sent In Error

When FCC attorney Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, got word July 22 via e-mail from Richard L. Whiten, WB2OTK, of Easley, South Carolina, that Whiten was getting out of ham radio and wanted to turn in his license, Hollingsworth obliged. He promptly canceled Whiten's General-class amateur privileges and deleted WB2OTK from the FCC database. At the time, the South Carolina ham was facing an FCC enforcement action that would have kept him off the HF bands for four months.

Hollingsworth explained that the FCC does not need the actual license document to cancel someone's amateur privileges. In the FCC's view, the license "grant" that exists in the FCC's database is all that matters in most cases.

Whiten subsequently claimed that the e-mail request to cancel his Amateur Radio license had been sent to the FCC in error, although the FCC says Whiten earlier "categorically denied" sending the e-mail request to cancel his ticket and also blamed it on "computer hackers." Hollingsworth has requested affidavits from Whiten explaining the circumstances and says the FCC will take the information he supplies under consideration, but in the meantime, he's warned Whiten to stay off the air.

Last month, the Commission modified Whiten's license for 120 days to prohibit operation below 30 MHz as part of a deal that would clear the books of

any outstanding FCC enforcement issues against Whiten. By going along with the proposal, Hollingsworth said in a June 30 letter to Whiten, "all enforcement issues related to the operation of WB2OTK would be moot and the case terminated" at the end of the suspension October 25. The FCC also said that if there were no violations of the modification order, it would grant Whiten's request--set aside by the FCC earlier this year--for the vanity call sign W2OTK.

The FCC says it's received "numerous complaints" about Whiten "regarding profanity, obscenity, broadcasting extreme racial slurs, deliberate interference and failure to properly identify." In late January, Hollingsworth and an FCC engineering team visited Whiten's station.

In April, the FCC sent Whiten tape recordings of transmissions from his station made on two occasions in November and asked him to explain their contents. Whiten responded in May. Citing privacy concerns, the FCC did not go into details about Whiten's explanations for what was on the tapes, but Hollingsworth noted in his June 30 letter ordering the modification that Whiten had apologized for the operation of his station on the dates in question. - via *ARRL Letter Online 7/30/99*

## FCC Enforcement Log Available

The FCC Amateur Radio Enforcement Log--a compilation of recent enforcement actions and correspondence from ARRL--now is available on the ARRLWeb (<http://www.arrl.org/>) by clicking on "News". Then visit "FCC Amateur Radio Enforcement Logs" under "Special Interest Topics." Editions of the FCC Amateur Radio Enforcement Log first appear in The ARRLWeb Extra on the Members Only site,

<http://www.arrl.org/members-only>. - via *ARRL Letter Online 7/23/99*



## W4YDY On The ARNS

Our esteemed editor, Dave Langley, W4YDY, was the subject of an Amateur Radio News Service article in June. The article covered Dave's development and management of our web site. Dave goes into a lot of detail of putting our newsletter on the web and it is indicative of the amount of effort, expertise and creativity it has taken and continues to take. Dave certainly is an asset to our club. Many clubs do not have "Daves" to do what he does and it really does make a difference. His activities have again brought national attention to BARC. Thanks Dave. - By

## APRS (Automatic Position Reporting System) Seminar -August 7

(Continued from page 1)  
this information.

The Seminar begins at 1:00 PM on Saturday, August 7, 1999. The Belk Building is located at the intersection of Greenville Boulevard and Charles Street directly across from Harrington Field.

Info: Doug Ferris K4ROK, Pitt County EC - [dferris@unctv.org](mailto:dferris@unctv.org)  
Phone: 252-749-5661 nights, 252-753-5541 days

## Outgoing QSLs Top The 1-Million Mark

For the first half of 1999, the Outgoing QSL Service has mailed 1,025,390 cards. That's up 162,900--or 18%--from the same date last year.--Martin Cook, N1FOC - via *ARRL Letter Online 7/16/99*

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## FCC Starts Amateur ULS Phase-in August 8

The FCC begins phasing in the Universal Licensing System for the Amateur Service August 8 at 4 PM Eastern Time. That's when the FCC stops accepting new or upgraded licensee data from Volunteer Examiner Coordinators under the current amateur licensing system.

The ULS ushers in an era of electronic, interactive filing and handling of Amateur Radio applications. Being phased out under ULS is the familiar paper FCC Form 610 series. A "universal" Form 605--primarily designed for electronic use but also available on paper--will take its place.

A July 23 FCC Public Notice says the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau will begin using the ULS for the Amateur Service on August 16. Existing Amateur Radio licensing data will be transferred into the ULS database during a weeklong phase-in period. During the

phase-in period, the FCC will not process new or upgraded licenses.

Electronic filing of Amateur Radio license renewals using FCC Form 900 ends August 9 at 9 AM Eastern Time. Electronic filing of vanity call sign application Form 610V terminates August 13 at 5:30 PM Eastern Time. Hams should not attempt to file renewal

under the ULS. The FCC has warned that applicants should anticipate processing delays during the first couple of weeks the ULS is in effect.

The FCC will stop accepting most Form 610 applications next February 16, but club station Form 610B will continue to be valid beyond the six-month transition window to allow time for the FCC to implement new handling procedures.

Among the advantages of the ULS, the FCC says, are fast and easy electronic filing, improved data accuracy through automated checking of applications, and better electronic access to licensing information. One feature of the new ULS is a renewal reminder sent 90 days prior to a license's expiration date. ULS also will simplify the process of submitting fees to the FCC, and the FCC said it anticipates that the ULS will be capable of accepting credit card payments on-line in the near future.

Registration in the ULS is required. Applicants should use FCC Form 606 for both electronic or manual filing. To register online, visit <http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/uls/> and click on "TIN/Call Sign Registration." A paper FCC Form 606 is available at <http://www.fcc.gov/formpage.html> or from the FCC's Forms Distribution Center, 800-418-3676.

The FCC will not process future license grants, upgrades, modifications or renewals for any applicant not registered in the ULS. Individuals eligible to hold a Social Security Number must provide this number to the FCC in order to be registered in the ULS.

A copy of the July 23, 1999 Public Notice is available at <http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/uls>. Additional information on ULS will appear in the Washington Mailbox column in the September issue of QST. - via ARRL Letter Online 7/30/99

## Registration in the ULS is required.

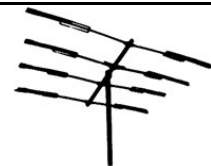
or vanity applications until the ULS comes up August 16.

Starting August 16, hams registered in the ULS may file the new FCC Form 605 electronically at any time of day, seven days a week. FCC Form 605 will be used for license renewals, modifications, cancellations, vanity call sign application, application withdrawals and amendments, as well as requests for duplicate licenses and administrative updates (ie, a change of address or other clerical license modification). Applications for new or upgraded licenses will continue to be filed through a Volunteer Examiner Coordinator.

Automated processing of electronically filed applications will occur nightly each business day, but five days a week instead of seven. There will be no weekend processing



Thanks to Greg Trook, N0UJR  
<http://incolor.inetnebr.com/n0ujr/>



## Meet The Member, Walt Verdick, KA4WFS

*(Continued from page 1)*

School and became an airplane mechanic. He was stationed with the 29th Air Depot Group in New Orleans (apparently part of his duty was to hit the "hot spots" too). They left for the South Pacific in 1942 by ship to Australia, New Guinea and then to the Philippines. Walt rose thru the ranks to sergeant and ultimately to crew chief where he flew in the big birds until his discharge in 1946.

Walt then joined the Larchmont Police Dept. after graduating from the Police Academy. Again, he went from patrolman, to motorcycles, to sergeant. At one point he was the fire arms instructor and was a sharpshooter himself. After 25 years with the force he retired in 1971.

Walt and Jean had thought about retiring to Virginia Beach at one time, but on a pre-retirement visit, they found it too congested. While visiting a friend in Washington, NC, they visited Greenville, they bought some property and shortly after retirement they moved here. Walt initially worked as a gun smith for a number of hardware stores and the police department, but no longer does that.

He also had more time to devote to getting his ham license. At first he started with CB radio and listen to his Hallicrafters radio. Gary Ambert, AI4J, got him started on the path to getting his license in 1981. He later had to go to Norfolk, VA, for this Technician license and has upgraded to his current General license.

Walt joined BARC before he got his Amateur Radio license and later served terms as Secretary and Second Vice President. He is presently serving the club as Public Relations Officer.

His past ham interests have included RTTY, packet, DX (CW) and Air Force MARS. Currently, his interest is mainly in the two meter area. He is involved in Skywarn and he and Jean have manned the station at the hospital on

many a stormy night. He has some interest in getting back into Morse code.

His equipment includes: Kenwood 700 2 meter, Icom 745, a KAM TNC and scope for RTTY, Icom 220, Icom 440 HT, two 2 meter Icom HT, a 2 meter Radio Shack mobile, Kenwood 2 meter mobile in his car and a scanner in his car and truck. He also has two towers. One has a TA33 beam and the other has an 11 element 2 meter beam. He also has a vertical for 2 meters.

His other actives include a lot of volunteering. He volunteers for the American Legion, the VFW, Disabled American Veterans, Pitt County Memorial Hospital, SurgiCenter, and Literacy Volunteers. He was even a volunteer fireman at one time.

Walt and Jean have been married for 31 years and they have three children from former marriages. Their two sons are in the New York area and their daughter lives in Phoenix, AZ. They have three grandchildren. None of them have caught the "ham bug".

You can see that Walt has spent most of his post high school years in public service - and he's still doing it, making a significant contribution to our community.

Hams are involved, not just in amateur radio, but in other activities that make our communities a better place to live and Walt is an exemplary example. Thanks Walt. - *K4MHM*

### Walt has spent most of his post high school years in public service - and he's still doing it

**Vanity update:** The FCC in Gettysburg reports it has processed vanity call sign applications received through July 2. The FCC issued 96 grants. Another 173 applications landed in the work-in-process (WIPs) stack.--FCC

**Ham dies in rescue chopper crash:** Charles R. "Mac" Atteberry, W0MAC, of Houston, Texas, died July 17 when a Hermann Hospital Life Flight helicopter on which he was a crew member mysteriously plummeted into a muddy field south of Houston. Two other crew members also died. Atteberry, 32, was a paramedic. - via ARRL Letter Online 7/30/99

## BARC Field Day Results For W1VOA


Approximately 35 to 40 club members and visitors attended the 1999 BARC Field Day. The results were reported to the ARRL by Brother Simon, KQ2V.

BARC operated in the two transmitter category.

CW Contacts	147
Novice	38
Total CW	185
Phone Contacts	258
Novice	64
Total Phone	322
Total Points	1384

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# BARC Monthly Minutes - July 1999

## Minutes of the July 13, 1999 BARC meeting

The meeting was called to order at 1830 hrs by Ron Knapp, W9EF, president of the Kinston club. Ron welcomed the BARC members to the meeting and held a brief business meeting for KARS.

Bernie Nobles, WA4MOK, brought hurricane tracking charts for those who might want them. He then introduced Kip Campbell, K1PEB, of UNC Public TV, who presented a very fine talk on HDTV. Kip is the director of engineering for UNC TV.

The minutes may not be accurate, since most of them were taken in subdued light, so please read them over, those of you that were there, and make any corrections at the August meeting.

It is mandated that there be a change from analog signals to digital signals by 2006. All programming comes from RTP to all 11 channels in the UNC TV system.

DTV: digital TV transmitted to conventional TV by digital technology. Signals may be compressed.

HDTV: high definition TV. One of the things you can do with a digital transmitter. It improves the signal to noise ratio, reduces or eliminates wow and flutter; there is no ghosting, crosstalk, snow, generation loss; the waveform is always perfect. The signal is either there or not. There are no analog compression artifacts; the signal can contain multiple types of information.

The changeover is not an option; it is underway now. By 2006, 85% of households in a market should have HDTV. It will be considered that then all in the market have it and NTSC will be eliminated. The projection is that by 2017-2020 the old system will be out completely.

Channels 2-6 will be low band VHF, 7-13 will be high band VHF and 14-26 will be UHF. Channels 2-6 may be unusable for DTV.

The new picture format will have a 16W x 9H aspect ratio. Multicasting will be possible, so you can

have channels (for instance) 4.1, 4.2, 4.3 and 4.4 carrying different programming. However, you will probably need an antenna and a rotor to receive HDTV signals unless the cable company gets on the bandwagon.

VCR's of current vintage will not be compatible with HDTV, nor will DVD's. Auxiliary data transmitted this way can be received by a computer. A good size of TV may be as large as 55".

Web sites to look at are Best Buy, Magnavox, ATSC.com and, through

Yahoo, HDTV.com. RTP has a demo room for HDTV. Check with Bernie.

The talk was very informative and the clarity of the images is great. You are all clever enough to pick out any inaccuracies in these minutes, so please give me corrections at the next meeting. Many thanks to Kip for coming, speaking and answering questions. Many thanks to Bernie also for setting up the program.

Respectfully submitted  
Lily Fainter, KV4AW

## ARRL Board Adopts New League Identity

The ARRL Board of Directors unanimously has approved the use of a new identity for the League. Meeting July 16-17 in Rocky Hill, Connecticut, the Board accepted the recommendation of the ARRL Executive Committee to emphasize the initials "ARRL" in conjunction with the tag line "The national association for Amateur Radio." The new identity--which is not a legal name change--will appear on League correspondence and publications. The traditional--and legal--name will be retained but de-emphasized; a new ARRL letterhead design includes "American Radio Relay League" at the bottom.

Further discussion of any possible new name for the League has been deferred until the Board meets again in January.

The ARRL Board also approved a proposal to hold a Hiram Percy Maxim 130-year anniversary on-the-air event in September. The event will mark the 130th anniversary of Maxim's birth, September 2, 1869. It will take place September 2-11.

In other action, the Board

\* directed Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ, to study the development and implementation of electronic QSL submittals for ARRL-sponsored awards.

\* directed Sumner to develop and implement strategies to induce developers "and others who have influence in these

matters" to relax restrictive covenants pertaining to Amateur Radio and antennas "so that Amateur Radio activities might be broadly accommodated."

\* heard "A Vision for Amateur Radio: Progress Report" from Sumner that addresses where Amateur Radio will be in 2010 and the challenges the League and the hobby will face.

\* officially recognized "the historic and benevolent contributions of the National Traffic System and its operators to the ARRL and the public service program," on the occasion of NTS's 50th anniversary.

\* directed the Headquarters staff to review the effects of contest rules pertaining to rovers and to make recommendations for promoting the participation by rovers.

\* presented a National Certificate of Merit to Nate Brightman, K6OSC, "for his dedicated efforts" that have resulted in continuous operation of the W6RO station aboard the Queen Mary by an Amateur Radio staff of more than 100 volunteers.

Additional details and complete minutes of the July Board meeting are posted on ARRLWeb (<http://www.arrl.org/>) and will appear in the September issue of QST. - *Excerpts via ARRL Letter Online 7/23/99*



# 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@arrl.net](mailto:w4ydy@arrl.net)

**For Sale:**

Kenwood TS-60 Transceiver, All mode, 6 Meters, 100 watts. Asking \$700. Phone (252) 321-4824

**Ken Graf, N8FF**

**For Sale:**

Okidata Microline 92 9-pin dot matrix printer. Like new condition. NLQ (Near Letter Quality). \$50 or make offer. Phone (252) 321-2525

**Dave Langley, W4YDY**

**King Hassan II, CN8MH, SK**

Morocco's King Hassan II (Moulay Hassan), CN8MH, died July 24. He had been licensed since 1956. Ahmed Boudda, CN8GI, called the late monarch "a friend to all Moroccan hams." - *via ARRL Letter Online 7/30/99*

**South Africa Added to Third-Party Traffic List**

South Africa (ZS) has been added to the list of countries with which the US has a third-party traffic agreement. The FCC updated its Amateur Service International Arrangements in a Public Notice July 21, listing all countries that have made necessary arrangements with the US to permit an Amateur Radio station regulated by the FCC to exchange messages for a third party. The updated list also is available on ARRLWeb at <http://www.arrl.org/field/regulations/io/3rdparty.html>. - *via ARRL Letter*

**President's Corner**

*(Continued from page 2)*

There's some real interest in getting an equipment trailer and this seed money can help move us in that direction.

There's plenty to do and something for every one. I hope you will be a part of it.

Ham radio, pass it on.

73,

*Murray, K4MHM*

**New Ham Class Instructors Meet August 12**

The next Amateur Radio class will be on Thursday evenings September 9 through November 18. The sequence of chapters from *Now You're Talking* will be essentially the same as previous years, but may be changed somewhat to accommodate the instructors' schedules. The class will generally be from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm with Morse code from 8:30 pm until 9:00 pm. (These times may vary from week to week.)

There will be an instructors meeting August 12 at 7:00 at St. Peter's School. The meeting is to go over approaches to teaching the material and possibly changing the format. Previous instructors and others interested in teaching are encouraged to let Murray, K4MHM, know and to come to the meeting if possible.

**Next VE Session August 20**

The next Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club VE session will be held on August 20. 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
- ◆ Test fee is \$6.45

**Commercial Ad Rates**

1/8 page, Business Card Size  
\$10 per Month - \$100 per Year

Send ads to: **Ham Chatter  
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or email [w4ydy@sprintmail.com](mailto:w4ydy@sprintmail.com)  
Help support *Ham Chatter*. Get some ads to offset the higher printing and mailing costs. Donations accepted!

**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*

August 10 . . . . .	<b>Regular Meeting</b>	October 12. . . . .	<b>Regular Meeting - Pick up ballots</b>
August 20 . . . . .	BARC VE Session @ 6:30PM	October 15. . . . .	BARC VE Session @ 6:30PM
August 31 . . . . .	<b>Board Meeting</b>	October 16. . . . .	JOTA
September 4-5 . . . . .	Shelby Hamfest	October 26. . . . .	<b>Board Meeting</b>
September 1* . . . . .	<b>Ham Chatter Deadline *Earlier</b>	October 30. . . . .	<b>Ham Chatter Deadline</b>
September 14. . . . .	<b>Regular Meeting - Nominations</b>	October 30-31. . . . .	CQ WW SSB DX Contest
September 18-19 . . . . .	VA Beach Hamfest	November 9. . . . .	<b>Regular Meeting - Elections</b>
September 28 . . . . .	<b>Board Meeting</b>	November 14. . . . .	Benson Hamfest
October 2. . . . .	<b>Ham Chatter Deadline</b>	November 30. . . . .	<b>Board Meeting</b>
October 10. . . . .	Maysville Hamfest	December 14 . . . . .	<b>Christmas Party - Club Awards</b>

**Regular Meeting** - 2nd Tuesday @ 7:30 PM  
**Board Meeting** - Last Tuesday @ 7:00 PM

BARC 2 METER NET - MONDAY NIGHTS AT 8:00 PM - 147.09 W4GDF REPEATER - 131.8 Tone  
PCEC 2 METER NET - MONDAY NIGHTS AT 9:00 PM - 147.09 W4GDF REPEATER - 131.8 Tone  
BRIGHTLEAF AMATEUR RADIO CLUB STATIONS

## W 4 A M C - W I V O A

**August 1999**

*Next Meeting  
August 10*

To:



PO Box 8387  
Greenville, NC 27835

**Ham Chatter**