



Ham Chatter



Volume XXXIII Issue 10 An Official BARC, W4AMC, Publication October 1999

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Meet The Member "Mac" Whitehurst, KS4O



Mac comes from humble beginnings. He was born in the Atlanta, GA area in a "tent top house". A tent top house was constructed of a packing case bottom with a tent roof. This was during the time his father was attending Georgia Tech after WWI. His dad not only had an electrical business, but also two bowling alleys and five miniature golf courses. All was lost during the depression. It was hard times for Mac growing up and his family moved frequently in the eastern part of the mid Atlantic states.

After graduating from high school, Mac went one year to the University of North Carolina. After that year he joined the Navy where he was a radioman and Morse code was the order of the day. Mac saw action in WWII on a destroyer and can remember the message when Pearl Harbor was hit, "No drill, carry out war plans against Japan." At the time they were at sea near Charleston, SC and soon were steaming in the Pacific. He

(Continued on page 3)

Historic Flood in Pitt County and Eastern North Carolina

10 - 15

No. This is not a reporting of contacts on 10 and 15 meters, but rather an indication of the hard work of BARC members and other North Carolina hams during the Floyd Flood emergency. Our hams operated at seven local shelters, the Pitt County Emergency Operations Center, and the Red Cross for ten straight days putting in at least 15 hours every day. Some, despite their own personal losses, continued to operate because the need was real. Most of the operators north of the Tar River lived at the shelters since they had no other place to go. Several local leaders topped off by Governor Jim Hunt came up as third party traffic and thanked our hams for their contribution during the emergency. Even when the need for emergency communications was no longer a factor, many of the hams showed up at the American Red Cross Distribution Center to volunteer their time in other endeavors, unloading, sorting and issuing items to refugees. Members of BARC! You may hold your heads high for when the real emergency hit us you were ready and performed in a manner no one can challenge. The entire State of North Carolina, not just the Governor, thanks you. Well Done Hams.

Tom Parsons, W4TEP

Next Meeting

The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club will have its monthly meeting on October 12 at 7:30 PM at St. Peter's School on 5th Street. Absentee ballots for Officers for 2000 will be delivered. All members and guests are invited to attend.

The next board meeting is set for October 26 at 7:00 PM. The meeting is open to all members.

Lost or Misplaced Equipment

The following equipment was lost or misplaced during the recent emergency activities with Hurricane Floyd and the resulting floods. If anyone has or knows where the equipment is, it should be returned to the Red Cross in Greenville and Tom Parsons, W4TEP, will get it to the rightful owners.

- * VHF/UHF Jump Kit
- * Car Batteries from Red Cross

Items from Lincolnton, NC

- * Yaesu FT530
- * Charger with extra battery
- * 2 meter mag mount antenna

President's Corner - Murray,

Last month I started the column with remarks about hurricane Dennis, well I guess Floyd gets the spotlight this month. Our county and eastern North Carolina have been hit hard - not so much from the wind, but from the flooding. We have lost lives, houses, cars and personal treasures in the watery aftermath of Floyd. A few of our members got hit pretty bad getting water into their homes and businesses. Let's give them a hand.

Amateur Radio can be proud of ARES response to the emergency. Coverage of Pitt County from the EOC, Pitt County Memorial Hospital, Red Cross, and the shelters in the schools (Bethel (transferred from North Pitt), Wellcome Middle, Stokes, Ayden-Grifton High, Ayden Middle (transferred from E. B. Aycock), Ayden Elementary (transferred from Wintergreen that transferred from D. H. Conley), Farmville,). The tireless efforts of Pitt County EC Doug, K4ROK, and countless others manning the various amateur radio stations made the difference in getting food, medical supplies, medical advice, evacuee locator, transportation, shelter supplies arranged and delivered. Amateur Radio was the backbone of communication without which

there would have been great inefficiencies and frustration.

Eastern North Carolina was served well with the Amateur Radio effort in Kinston. The preparation of Bernie, WA4MOK, in equipment and manpower paid off. They were ready despite the one, two punch of Floyd. Obviously, these two hams had a lot of support. Some it was from "staff" who were

A few of our members got hit pretty bad getting water into their homes and businesses.

prepared and in place and countless others who left the relative comfort of their homes and families to man the rigs to help others. Other hams suffered personal losses and still made heroic efforts to serve. Ham radio made a difference and a lot of other people know that too and are grateful.

The Nominating Committee made up of John, K4KBB, Bernie, WA4MOK and Byron, KA4KGZ pro-

vided a slate of candidates for the election for 2000. The election will take place in November with absentee ballots available at the October meeting. While nominations are closed, write-ins are possible. Take time to consider the candidates and to vote - this is the leadership you put in place. Choose your leaders wisely - they must care about BARC and be involved. Then, support them as they try to continue the mission of making BARC a good club.

Don't forget JOTA on Oct 16 - let Tom, W4TEP, know if you can help.

We have started another new ham class. It is always a pleasure to see people interested in getting their license. It reminds me of when I was a "wanta be" and was anticipating the time when I would have my license. It's good to be reminded of that.

We are in the formative stages of our fund raising, but it looks like a plan is coming together. John, K4KBB, Juanita, KE4JWK, and Bob, KE4UGD, are open to suggestions. The funds are needed to help finance an equipment trailer which has a ten foot interior capacity and is able to be towed by a regular

(Continued on page 4)



Happy Birthday

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

19 KD4JOV James Eubanks
28 KA4KGZ Byron Highland
Please let me know of any additions or corrections. - W4YDY

KD4WUJ is a Winner

At the Country Music Association awards September 22, Vince Gill and **Patty Loveless**, KD4WUJ, won Vocal Event of the Year for their duet "My Kind of Woman/My Kind of Man." Loveless, now on tour, was a no-show at the awards. Filling in was Dolly Parton (who hails from Ten-Tec country). - via ARRL Letter Online 10/1/99

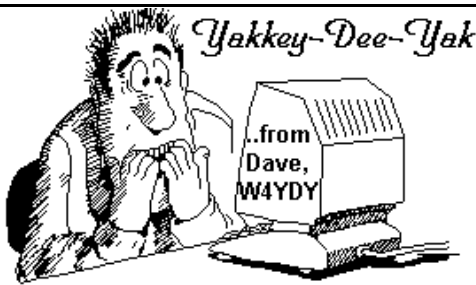
Well Wishes

The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club wishes to extend its compassion to the BARC members and others in the area that had losses due to Hurricane Floyd and the floods that followed. Many of those same members also helped with emergency communications while their property was being destroyed.



Inside This Issue

<i>Yakke-Dee-Yak</i>	3
<i>Nominations</i>	4
<i>New Ham Class</i>	4
<i>ULS</i>	4
<i>Hams in Action</i>	5
<i>Ham Response Largest Ever</i>	5
<i>Emergency AR Operators</i>	6
<i>Western NC Pitches In</i>	6
<i>BARC Meeting Minutes</i>	8
<i>CROATAN Mystery Solved?</i>	9
<i>Next VE Session October 15</i>	9
<i>Ham Ads</i>	9



Meet the Member 'Mac' Whitehurst, KS4O

(Continued from page 1)

witnessed four carriers go down: Lexington, Hornet, Yorktown and the Wasp. His own vessel saw 31 engagements. After 20 years of the Navy he retired and joined TV Channel 9 where he stayed for five years. He also attended ECU to finish his degree in mathematics in 1984. He then became an instructor of electronics at Pitt Community College until his second retirement.

Unlike most of us who got our license and then our equipment, Mac did it in reverse order - not that he intended it that way. He had gone to a hamfest in Raleigh and won a two meter base station before he had his license - talk about incentive licensing! Mac then got his license shortly thereafter in 1980 with his first call being WA4WGX. He notes that he had always been interested in ham radio but never had the time.

Mac mostly does two meters now. He backed off HF since he got his pace-maker. He has been a member of BARC since he was first licensed. While he notes he was not too active in BARC, he has attended meetings and participated in field day.

Mac is active in the Golden Kiwanis Club, has delivered Meals On Wheels for 15 years and is an active church member. He has attended many of the reunions of his Navy days and plans to go to Fort Worth, TX in October. Mac is married to Mary and he has one daughter in California and has a 15 year old granddaughter. He has a cousin in Wilson, NC who was once a ham.

Mac has supported BARC for 20 years and gets in there where he's needed. Recently, during the flooding caused by hurricane Floyd, Mac helped man one of the shelters. We appreciate the many years of support Mac has given BARC and the times he has helped out. - **K4MHM**

The ARRL Letter Online has an article (see page five of this newsletter) about the Amateur Radio response due to the emergency caused by Hurricane Floyd. On page six of this newsletter, there are sixty-seven Amateur Radio operators listed that assisted with communications. Some worked at the EOC, Red Cross, food preparation centers and shelters. Others transported people and equipment and reported weather and road conditions and some did it all. There were several club members that lost property and had a lot a damage due to the flood but they also helped with emergency communications. I don't know about everyone that lost property, but I did hear of a couple. John McCoy, K4KBB, had his

Amateur Radio came together and really did an outstanding job with the emergency.

business flooded and the water came up to the floor of his home so it ruined the flooring and carpets and he had to move out. Also, I understand Marlin, KF4MHV, and Brian, KF4MTL, Hardee were flooded out and were taken in by friends. They all helped with emergency communications. Many lost food due to the electricity being out several times due to wind and floods. Others had to assist other family members that were flooded and could not help as much as they wanted to. Others had other emergency jobs, so just because they might not have been on the air very much, doesn't mean that they were not working with the emergencies. I'm sure if everyone could, they would have been assisting with the Amateur Radio communications every day.

There were several club members that seemed to be on the air most of

the time. I think Tom Parsons, W4TEP, holds the record for the most time, all from the Red Cross. I understand he is the only BARC club member that is also a Red Cross worker. Doug Ferris, K4ROK, Pitt County EC, spent a lot of time at the EOC and making calls to line up operators for seven shelters and other facilities in Pitt County. Many times, some could not help because of their own problems with the flood, electricity and water supply. The assistance of Amateur Radio operators from outside the flooded area were a great help to all areas of Eastern North Carolina.

After Amateur Radio had been operating since September 15, on Thursday, September 23, State Senator Ed Warren spoke to the Amateur Radio operators from the EOC on the Greenville W4GDF repeater (147.09 MHz) Thursday afternoon. Everyone from the shelters and other positions thanked him for his comments. The next morning from the EOC, a number of officials spoke to Amateur Radio operators on the W4GDF repeater. I was at home at that time and I

heard some of them but not all. The ones I heard were (in order) the Mayor of Bethel,

Governor James Hunt, Pitt County Sheriff Mac Manning, KD4AFL, (a BARC member), State Representative Rep Edith Warren from Pitt County, and State Representative Tolson from Edgecombe County.

Greenville and Pitt County had a lot of problems with the water systems due to flooding and washed out roads breaking water lines. It has taken up to two weeks for some systems to be cleared for drinking. It looked for a while that Greenville and a lot of Pitt County would be without electricity for a week or more when the flood overran the local utilities facility. After about 25 hours, it came back up with a temporary hookup with CP&L working with GUC. It was still on a shoestring according to utilities officials

(Continued on page 4)

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Nominating Committee Names Slate

At the September meeting, the Nominating Committee provided the membership with a slate of candidates for the year 2000. Candidates are: Murray, K4MHM, President; Mike, KD4MTT, First Vice President; Jim, KF4VHH, Second Vice President; Lily, KV4AW, Secretary; Bob, KE4UGC, Treasurer and Ken Gaff, N8FF, as Trustee should Murray be elected to a second term. Wayne, WD4JPQ, will serve a second year of the two year term. The election is at the November meeting. Absentee ballots will be available as of the October meeting. Write-ins are allowed. All members are encouraged to participate in this democratic process. - *K4MHM*

New Ham Class

Fifteen people came to the first class. We have Eric Dendy the son of Larry, KG4BTX, took the last class. We have a high school senior, Julie Williams, who is getting her license as a senior project (Susan, her mother, is coming too). Plummer Nye has a Associate Degree in electronics and has an interest in ham radio. Eugene Faison retired from a firm that manufactured electronic equipment and looks forward to talking to others around the world. Three in the Spence family are attending: mom Laura, her son and her daughter Erin. Wayne Ross's, WD4JPQ, niece Amanda Jones is attending - guess what, she also has an interest in ballooning. Malcolm Maxwell, the husband of recently licensed wife Elka, KG4DVX, has experienced an interest in getting his license. Two people with an interest in sailing, Katherine McGinnis and Chuck Bland are interested because of ham radio's value on the high seas. There's Sandy Steinberg, who is sight impaired and was recruited by Ken,

N8FF, who has a an associates degree in electronics. Nine year old Miguel Rios and his father would like to be able to talk to people in Mexico.

Bob, KE4UGC, did the first class. He did an outstanding job with the FCC regulations. He made a rather dry subject move smoothly and in an interesting manner. The second two classes were canceled due to hurricane Floyd. Classes resume September 30. - *K4MHM*

President's Corner

(Continued from page 2)
size car.

There's much to do as we enter this fall season - hamming and otherwise. Let's be good to each other and enjoy our hobby. Ham radio, pass it on.

73,

Murray, K4MHM

ULS Vanity Processing Inches Forward

The FCC's new Universal Licensing System has moved a bit closer to resuming full-scale amateur vanity call sign processing.

Several lucky applicants who had submitted call sign requests in the pre-ULS era benefited in recent days from some "live" testing of the ULS vanity processing system. A few not-so-lucky applicants learned this week, however, that the FCC had to rescind some of those vanity grants it cranked out--and should not have--during those "test runs."

Until last week, no vanity call signs had been granted since August 4. The ULS has been accepting vanity applications since it inaugurated the ULS for the Amateur Service August 16, however.

Some 30 vanity call sign applications dating from July were processed September 16. The FCC ran a batch of another 50 or so vanity applications September 21. "We're taking it slow," a ULS spokesperson said.

But while reviewing the vanity applications processed, FCC personnel found some that should not have been

granted in the first place, because the applicants made various fatal errors in the application process. The FCC says those call signs will be cancelled and the applications dismissed.

"And there will be plenty more, I'm sure," the spokesperson said, anticipating additional dismissals down the road. The FCC has the option of rescinding any grant within 30 days.

The fee for a vanity call sign application increased to \$14 on September 14.

Vanity applications not accompanied by payments within the 10-day deadline will be dismissed automatically. The ULS now permits applicants to make credit card payments on-line. The fee for a vanity call sign application increased to \$14 on September 14.

In the wake of comments and criticisms about the difficulty of having to configure a dial-up connection with a

particular browser (Netscape version 4.5 or higher, and version 4.61 preferred) to file an application, the ULS Task Force says it's planning to convert to electronic filing via the Internet. But a spokesperson says that is not likely to happen for another six to nine months. In the meantime, some have opted to file a paper Form 605 instead. - *excerpts via ARRL Letter Online 9/24/99*

Yakkey-Dee-

(Continued from page 3)

and it would have to be shut down again if the water kept rising. We were told it was only two inches away from having to shut down again but the flood peaked out and finally started down.

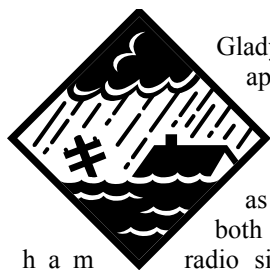
It seemed Amateur Radio got a lot of praise from government officials, but I never did see anything on the media about the service Amateur Radio provided. Hopefully, I just missed seeing the stories. - *W4YDY*



Hams in Action During Flood

Two hams from Grifton lost everything in the flood. Randy, AC4ZF, and his wife Gladys, KR4KE, wound up in the shelter at Conley High School. They both checked in as emergency operators and became the Pitt County ARES link to that school. When the imminent flooding there forced a move to Wintergreen Middle School, the need for additional operators at other schools led to the separation of the family. Gladys remained at Wintergreen and Randy was moved across the Tar River to provide communications from Wellcome Middle School. The two were separated for one week, managing a quick "good morning" and a brief "good night" to each other via the radio link. Wintergreen eventually lost its water supply and the entire group of refugees and volunteers, including Gladys, were moved to Ayden Elementary School.

The two hams were eventually reunited and Randy reported they visited their home site, via boat, and he was able to place his hand on the roof while seated in the boat.



Randy and Gladys were selected to appear on the new *Richard Simmons Show* called "Dream Makers"

as representatives of both the refugee and ham radio sides of the flood. Their appearance was taped on September and will appear in North Carolina at a yet to be determined date. The show announced that \$10,000 was being donated to the NC Disaster Relief Fund, another \$10,000 worth of food was being donated by General Mills, and finally, Randy and Gladys were presented with \$5,000 to help them get a new start. Our heartfelt sorrow goes out to Randy and Gladys for their lost. But, we also owe them a debt of gratitude for responding to the need for ham radio operators despite their own loss. Many thanks to a great couple. - Tom Parsons, W4TEP

HAM Response To Carolina Flooding Possibly Largest Ever

North Carolina Section Manager Reed Whitten, AB4W, says the Amateur Radio response in that state to Hurricane Floyd and the resulting flooding could be one for the record books. "This was the largest operation we have had in a number of years--possibly the largest ever," Whitten said this week. He also called it the "smoothest operation" in terms of amateur mobilization and coordination. At one point, upwards of 300 hams were involved in the flood response.

In addition to their traditional role as communicators, hams applied their technical expertise to benefit the North Carolina flood recovery. Whitten said amateurs were instrumental in setting up a nonamateur UHF repeater system for the Red Cross. "Without Amateur Radio assistance," he said, "this system would not be in place."

Whitten credited North Carolina ARRL Technical Coordinator Danny Hampton, K4ITL, with helping to secure a repeater, a site, and installation services, as well as checking out available frequencies. The equipment was installed September 24 near Raleigh at no cost to the Red Cross. As part of the repeater effort, Sammy Simmons, KD4MJO, traveled 50 miles to Emporia, Virginia, to give a Red Cross radio technician the software necessary to program the Red Cross mobile radios.

"This system is providing mobile coverage into Raleigh, Goldsboro, Kinston, Greenville and Tarboro, North Carolina," Whitten said. "I think this is an excellent example of ARES operating in an appropriate role as communications consultants."

Additional rainfall this week did not generate renewed ARES/RACES callups nor any addi-

tional need for Amateur Radio volunteers, Whitten said. Salvation Army Tactical Emergency Radio Network operator James Proctor, KA4IZN, in New Bern, North Carolina, reported Thursday on the National SATERN network that conditions are deteriorating in North Carolina due to the rain and the "potential evaporation of volunteer interest," a SATERN report said.

At week's end, hams primarily were providing backup communication, and none remained stationed at county emergency operations centers, shelters or mass feeding units. "Although there are no longer several hundred amateurs spending long hours away from home, we still have a presence in the recovery operation," Whitten said. The nine Southern Baptist kitchens were using ham radio as their backup communication to the American Red Cross. Volunteers from North Carolina and other states remain available, if needed, he added.

The North Carolina traffic and ARES nets have resumed regular operating schedules. "We are having daily critiques on the Tar Heel Emergency Net on HF," Whitten said.

Whitten thanked all amateurs, emergency officials, and state government officials who have participated in the Hurricane Floyd response. - via ARRL Letter Online 10/1/99

KD4OFQ
K4AVC

STARFISH INTERNET SERVICE

3195 E. Tenth St. Suite C Greenville, NC 27858
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 Tech support: Toll Free 1-877-439-7834 7 days a week
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Amateur Radio Operators Assist With Hurricane Floyd Flood Communications

The following is a list of operators that provided communications during the recent disaster in Eastern North Carolina. They operated from the EOC, Red Cross, shelters, LSA, provided transportation and passed along weather and road information. If you know of someone that was left off, please let us know. *W4YDY*

N3PHT	Greg Robinson
WA4ASP	Raymond Potter
N4ATW	Sandy Harris
KV4AW	Lily Fainter
KD4BSZ	Ward Bradshaw
KG4CCX	Todd LeMoine
KG4CCY	Kim Lukhard
KF4CUI	Buddy Chandler
N4CZT	Doug Beckwith
KG4CZV	Dave Pulver
KG4D	Gary Owens
KA4DMW	Scott Worley
KD4EAD	John Clements
KB4FWL	Bob Connley
KF4HFH	Thomas Settle

AG4I
K4IDD
KU4JD
WD4JPQ
KE4JVX
KE4JWK
K4KBB
KR4KE
KA4KGZ
KD4KLM
WO4LF
KD4LUI
KE4MGK
K4MHM
KF4MHV
WA4MOK
KF4MTL
KD4MTT
WA4MXT
KD4NNA
KU4NQ
KD4NYV
KS4O
WI4O

Barry Finley
Gerry Clayton
William Cofield
Wayne Ross
Joe Simoneaux
Juanita Humbles
John McCoy
Gladys Tallant
Byron Highland
John Waters, Sr.
James Anderson
Ross Miller
Charlotte Motola
Murray Merner
Marlin Hardee
Bernie Nobles
Bryan Hardee
Mike Langley
Dr. Paul Catrou
Patrick Sutton
Gary Gasparini
John Waters, Jr.
Mac Whitehurst
Chris Bremer

KC4PHJ
KF4RBJ
K4ROK
KF4RVS
KD4RWF
WA4SLC
WB4SLF
KE4SQI
W4TEP
KE4TRL
KE4TZN
KE4UFZ
KE4UGC
KF4VHH
KA4WFS
N4WKM
W4YDY
KS4YF
KD4YJP
AC4ZF
N4ZRR
KC5CVB
KD6NUJ
KD7AZQ
K7GM
N8FF
N8RQR
WD0GLP

Alex Macklin
Joyce Griswell
Doug Ferris
Vince Mallol
Gray Clements
Bill Dawson
Joe Melton
Dave LeMoine
Tom Parsons
Mason Paramore
John Johnson
Frank Butler
Bob Fainter
Jim Smith
Walt Verdick & Jean
Charles Thorne
Dave Langley
Paul Fletcher
Melba Finley
Randy Tallant
Tom Mercer
Dr. Rajesh Rao
Chuck Martin
Adam Childers & Quell
Rick Niswander
Ken Graf
Joe Matola
Bill Sirginson

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"Yea...I just bought one of those new computer controlled 'smart' HF rigs. It almost anticipates your settings. Only thing is...if I forget myself and start using rough language on the air, the darn thing retunes itself to 11 meters!..."

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



More Flood Help

Western NC Pitches In

A phone call from Lincolnton, NC, received at the Red Cross office indicated that two hams, two nurses, three EMTs and a truck loaded with medical supplies were on their way to Pitt County. They proceeded east and were confronted by every obstacle imaginable from water to road blocks by local authorities. Finally, they came up on the 147.09 repeater and had almost as much trouble getting through Greenville as they had in getting here. They were directed to the Red Cross parking lot where Barry, AG4I, and his wife Melba, KD4YJP, along with one nurse, two EMTs, six First Responders and, one retired medic emerged and were greeted with great enthusiasm. The retired medic, Jim Hayes, had passed his Novice exam but had not yet receive a call sign. The medical supplies were dispatched to the hospital and Barry and Melba were sent to Aycok Middle School where they served in the finest tradition as ham radio operators. Most of the medical personnel went across the river where the greatest need for their expertise existed. Barry and Melba returned home and the EMT side of the team made one more trip to Greenville delivering more medical supplies. A special thanks goes out to the entire team but especially to Barry, Melba, and Jim for giving our overworked operators a much needed rest. - *Tom Parsons, W4TEP*

FCC Issues Stern Warning To New Mexico Ham

The FCC has fired a warning shot over the bow of a New Mexico ham who has been the target of complaints. The Commission notified General licensee Sidney W. Mahan, K5BLB, of Estancia, New Mexico, on September 15 that if the complaints about his operation continue, the FCC intends to designate his station license for a revocation hearing and his operator license for suspension for the rest of the license term, which ends April 12, 2006.

Last November 18, the FCC had sent Mahan a Warning Notice concerning his operation on 3.950 MHz that allegedly involved tapes played on the air as well as sound effects and deliberate interference to other operators.

"We continue to receive complaints and monitoring information on the operation of your station, particularly regarding profanity, obscenity, broadcasting extreme racial slurs, deliberate interference and failure to properly identify," said FCC Adviser for Enforcement Riley Hollingsworth in the most recent FCC communication. In particular, Hollingsworth said, the complaints concerned alleged interference by Mahan to "a net that attempts to operate around 3.950 MHz on Saturday evenings"--an apparent reference to The Liberty Net.

In his letter, Hollingsworth outlined and defined FCC prohibitions against the transmission of obscene or indecent material and advised Mahan that, for indecency purposes, the FCC treats amateur transmissions "the same as commercial broadcasts."

In addition to threatening to take K5BLB before an administrative law judge if the complaints continue, Hollingsworth said the FCC planned to forward tape recordings of K5BLB on August 13, 1999, on 3.950 MHz and would request "a full explanation for those radio transmissions." Mahan's reply, Hollingsworth said, "will be used to determine what action to take in this matter." - via *ARRL Letter Online 10/1/99*

National Weather Service Bill Creates Storm Cloud

A provision in a bill authorizing appropriations for the National Weather Service, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and other government weather services has raised fears that Amateur Radio-related activities such as SKYWARN may be endangered. The provision, Section 3© entitled "Competition with Private Sector", also has triggered concern on the part of some that the bill could reduce the government's ability to monitor and issue severe weather warnings. Some hams already have contacted their Senators requesting them to oppose the measure, HR-1553.

Section 3(c) says the NWS "shall not provide, or assist other entities to provide, a service if that service is currently provided or can be provided by commercial enterprise." There would be exceptions if the private sector were unwilling or unable to provide the service or if the service provides "vital weather warnings and forecasts for the protection of lives and property of the general public."

The provision is being championed by commercial weather services that provide fee-based "cloudy and warmer"-style and so-called "value-added" weather forecasts, primarily to commercial broadcasters. Some believe the bill could keep the NWS from providing needed weather information, including storm watches and warnings, storm tracking information, and other weather-related data to ARES/RACES organizations or to emergency management officials.

ARRL Legislative and Public Affairs Manager Steve Mansfield, N1MZA, says

HR 1553, "generally can be construed as supporting the National Weather Service's role in the dissemination of severe weather warnings, because it specifically designates the service as the sole issuer of severe weather warnings." Mansfield notes, however, that NWS and NOAA authorizing legislation hasn't passed the Congress for six years.

Amateur Radio-related activities such as SKYWARN may be endangered

Beyond that, the "private sector" provision in Section 3(c) has drawn fire from the White House, which has requested its removal. A Statement of Administration Policy notes that the provision "could create confusion about who is responsible for specific marine and aviation weather forecasts." Mansfield says that even if the bill does make it through Congress intact, he does not believe it will harm Amateur Radio's SKYWARN relationship with NWS.


HR 1553 has passed the House. Action is pending in the Senate Commerce, Science and Technology Committee, chaired by Sen John McCain. - via *ARRL Letter Online 10/1/99*

New ARRL FCC License Data Search Engine

The ARRL has added a public page to search FCC license data. It's at <http://www.arrl.org/fcc/fcclookup.php3>. via *ARRL Letter Online 10/1/99*

K4KBB

J & P Machine Works, Inc.



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Greenville, NC 27834
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Manufacturer of Swiss Screw Machine Products.
Pins, Shafts, Rods and Spacers.

BARC Monthly Minutes - September 1999

Minutes of BARC meeting of 9/14/99

The meeting was called to order at 7:38pm. Minutes of last month's meeting were approved.

Treasurer, KE4UGC, reported a total of \$10.50 taken in last month and two payments of \$250.00 (insurance) and \$33.00 (stamps) made. Total in checking account is \$1499.67.

Secretary, KV4AW, reported on a complimentary mention of the BARC on-line newsletter by John Covington in the NC Section Newsletter. Murray, K4MHM, had a letter to the editor published in the Daily Reflector regarding August 18 and Amateur Radio Recognition Day (suggested by ARRL). University Health Services People newspaper mentioned that amateur radio operators would provide communication for the upcoming Multiple Sclerosis marathon (Sept. 25-26). Up-dated BARC constitutions, containing the new absentee ballot amendment, were available for anyone who wanted one.

Committee reports

Special Service Club--Paul, KS4YF, reported the packet is in and partially filled out.

Special Events--Tom, W4TEP, reported that JOTA's location was not yet confirmed, but would be at a pond. He has Scouts on the Air packets from ARRL. There is information on the jamboree in the latest QST. Scouts will use club facilities to operate.

Instructor Group--21 students in class with possibility of 2 more.

Program--contesting at a later date, possibly October meeting. Tonight, Mike, KD4MTT, on hurricane preparedness.

Equipment--inventory list supplied by Tom, W4TEP, and available to members. Gary, KU4NQ, noted that values of the pieces of equipment have never been depreciated. The actual existence and/or location of the Compaq 286 computer (value \$25.00) is currently unknown, but Br. Simon, KQ2V, may have it or know

where it is.

The new trailer is still in the funding stage as reported by Wayne, WD4JPQ, and Murray, K4MHM.

Publicity--Tom, W4TEP, moved and Paul, KS4YF, seconded that a roll of stamps be purchased for Walt Verdick, KA4WFS, for publicity purposes. Treasurer, KE4UGC, suggested that a line item in next year's budget for \$35.00 for this sort of thing be considered.

Bernie, WA4MOK, Tom, W4TEP and Ray, WB4FRB, got some publicity via Channels 7 and 9 for their work during Hurricane Dennis. Good job, guys!!

Nominating Committee--John McCoy, K4KBB, thanked those who are serving for 1999 and also those who were willing to serve in 2000. The proposed slate for 2000 is

President--

Murray Merner, K4MHM

1st Vice President--

Mike Langley, KD4MTT

2nd vice President--

Jim Smith, KF4VHH

Treasurer--

Bob Fainter, KD4UGC

Secretary--

Lily Fainter, KV4AW

Trustee--

Ken Graf, N8FF

The ballots will be prepared for October and the election will be in November. Bob, KE4UGC, noted that, according to the new amendment, nominations must be closed as of this evening (9/14/99) so the ballots can be made up. However, write-ins are ok and a line for any write-in nomination will be included on the ballot.

ARES--Get ready for Hurricane Floyd. Call Bill Dawson, WA4SLC, or Byron Highland, KA4KGZ, to advise your availability for communications. Doug, K4ROK, noted that the Pitt Cty EOC will activate at 0700 on 9/15. Shelters will probably begin to open after 9PM, but no official notice will occur until after 4PM.

Old Business

Fund Raising--the committee of John McCoy, K4KBB, Juanita Humbles, KE4JWK, and Bob Fainter, KE4UGC, suggested a raffle of a Radio Shack

weather station or its cash equivalent (to be chosen by the winner). Two books of tickets/club member at \$1.00 each ticket to be sold. Suggested that Christmas stocking stuffer might help to sell tickets. Hams for Habitat--September 18, inside work.

No new business.

Paul, KS4YF, requested that the club call W4AMC be used for the PC EOC communications during emergencies and the W1VOA call be used at the hospital. OK.

Respectively submitted

Lily Fainter, KV4AW

ARRL Adopts Cabrillo File Format For Contests

The ARRL Contest Branch has announced that it's adopting a new standard electronic file format known as Cabrillo for all ARRL Contests. Starting with the 1999 ARRL November Sweepstakes, the Cabrillo V2.0 file format will be the standard file format at the ARRL for electronic submissions. Previously acceptable file formats for ARRL contests may be submitted during a one-year transition period, however.

Starting with entries for the November 2000 ARRL Sweepstakes, the Cabrillo format will be the only acceptable electronic file format for ARRL contests. Stations may still use text editors on their home PCs to generate the log files, but these "home-designed" files must meet the Cabrillo file format beginning with next year's November Sweepstakes submittals.

The Cabrillo format standardizes the QSO information that appears in each data column. Details on the format appear in the "General Rules for all ARRL Contests" in the November 1999 issue of QST. Specifications for the Cabrillo file format also are available on-line at <http://www.kkn.net/~trey/cabrillo/>. In addition to the file specifications, there are sample templates for various ARRL contests, a history of any modifications to the format, and some insight into the development of the Cabrillo file format..

(Continued on page 9)

Ham Ads

Ham Ads will be run, free of charge in Ham Chatter for three months for each renewal. Ads must be received by the last week of the month to be included in the following issue. Send ads to: **Ham Chatter, PO Box 8387, Greenville, NC 27835, ATTN: Dave Langley** or email to: w4ydy@arri.net

For Sale:

Butternut "Butterfly" beam, HF-5B - 20,17,15,12,10 meter operation. Have manual. Lightweight, survived hurricanes on pushup mast. Asking \$150 or best reasonable offer. Gerry, K4IDD, 756-4102 evening or weekend. Also gclayton@greenvillenc.com.

ARRL Adopts Cabrillo File Format For Contests

(Continued from page 8)

For additional information on the technical specifics of the Cabrillo format, contact Trey Garlough, N5KO, trey@kkn.net. For more information on ARRL-sponsored contests contact ARRL Contest Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, n1nd@arri.org; 860-594-0232. - *excerpts via ARRL Letter Online 10/1/99*

CROATAN

We have been told that the Floyd Flood reached the highest point of the past 500 years. Well! As you may recall, the Tuscarora Indians reigned over this area at that time and the European settlers had not yet dropped anchor off the coast of the Carolinas or Virginia. When their first expedition resulted in what we now refer to as "The Lost Colony", only the word "Croatan" remained to indicate that anyone had ever been here. In light of our recent experience, one might conclude that the word Croatan was the Tuscaroran word for **flood**. Is that how we knew that this was a 500 year flood? - **Tom Parsons, W4TEP**

Paul Fletcher, KS4YF, Featured in Health Newsletter

Our own Paul Fletcher, Ph.D., KS4YF, was in the September issue of the University Health Systems' newsletter People. It pointed out that Paul has been studying scorpion venom for the last 20 years. The venom is used in the search for a cure for pancreatitis since it causes a rapid onset of the disease 90 percent of sting victims. Paul and his colleagues have isolated 40 different proteins from the venom. This has led to a less toxic form of the venom that could be used in animal studies and to eventually help humans.



The research has led to synthetic antiserum that has less allergic reactions than that derived from horses. Paul has collaborated with researchers in Mexico and Brazil since scorpion stings are prevalent in Central and South America and often lead to death.

Paul is also studying pancreatic cellular structure and function. Note worthy is the fact that Paul's wife Marianne (an aspiring ham) and Lily Fainter, KV4AW, work with Paul in the laboratory. - K4MHM

Next VE Session October 15

The next Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club VE session will be held on October 15. 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
PO Box 8387
Greenville, NC 27835,
ATTN: Dave Langley**

or email 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)
- ◆ Kinston Amateur Radio Society Net, 1,3,4 Tuesdays, 2000 hrs. on 145.47 MHz., W4OIX repeater in Kinston.
- ◆ 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

October 10.	Maysville Hamfest	November 14	Benson Hamfest
October 12.	Regular Meeting - <i>Pick up ballots</i>	November 20-22.	ARRL SSB Sweepstakes Contest
October 15.	BARC VE Session @ 6:30PM	November 27-38.	CQ WW CW DX Contest
October 16.	JOTA	November 30	Board Meeting
October 26.	Board Meeting	December 4	Ham Chatter Deadline
October 30.	Ham Chatter Deadline	December 3-5.	ARRL 160 Meter Contest
October 30-31.	CQ WW SSB DX Contest	December 11-12.	ARRL 10 Meter Contest
November 6-8.	ARRL CW Sweepstakes Contest	December 14	Christmas Party - <i>Club Awards</i>
November 9	Regular Meeting - <i>Elections</i>		

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

FLOOD EDITION!

October 1999

Meeting Oct 12

To:



PO Box 8387
Greenville, NC 27835

Ham Chatter