

# Ham Chatter



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## BARC STARTED IN-PERSON General Meetings, Mask Required

### Elections in November for BARC Officers.

**Election votes to take place at meeting. Mail-in Votes must be received Before meeting time. Recommend any mail-in's be sent at least 4 days before the Meeting.**

Richard Cox, 85, K4CRD, SK,  
October 28, 2021



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### VOA Event February 19-20, 2022

Brightleaf will be the W4A station. Transmitting location to be determined. Details still being worked out.

### BARC's Next Meeting in Person and Zoom Nov. 9, 2021, 7 PM

Oakwood School in the Music room

*All members, families and guests are invited to attend.*

**Speaker:** Macon A Dail talking about the VOA.

We will be **VOTING** for BARC Officers for the next year. Not to be missed!

Following Meeting :  
Dec 14, Club Christmas party. Location to be announced soon.

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### Reminder, Dues are due January 1, early payments accepted.

Please send in your checks to the Treasurer or go to our W4AMC.com webpage and use PayPal. Thank you.

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**Board Meeting - Nov. 30, 2021**  
**The meeting will be on ZOOM** at 7:00 PM. All members invited.

## VE News

To find the next VE testing session please go to the ARRL web site: <http://www.arrl.org/find-an-amateur-radio-license-exam-session> and find one in your local area. For local Hams, look up Gerald KN4CKL as he has been doing limited testing all through the pandemic. GO Gerald!!!! You will need a reservation in order to be tested. Practice taking the test on line with <https://www.hamradiolicenseexam.com>. Study material at: <http://www.arrl.org/courses-training>.

The contents of this Newsletter doesn't necessarily express the opinion or views of Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club or it's members. No offence is intended.

## Happy Birthday

Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club members birthdays :

11-03 AF4QY Bob Hanrahan  
11-08 KD4NHZ Walter Allen  
11-11 W4EJ Dave Wood  
11-18 KN4LVD Daniel Hayes

Please let me know of any additions or corrections. If yours is missing, I don't have it! email [hamchatter@w4amc.com](mailto:hamchatter@w4amc.com)

## Presentation Ideas Needed

Who do you want to see or hear giving a Presentation at the Meetings? Let Byron know. Email him at: [bhighland@nc.rr.com](mailto:bhighland@nc.rr.com)

## Missing out on seeing folks in person at the meetings? We've Starting up again!

Join us on ZOOM or in person.  
We miss seeing you too.

## Login for BARC meeting on Zoom

Peter Van Houten, N4PVH, will be running Zoom for the meeting. To join, use his Zoom number, 699-723-8982. The password will be sent via email. If you have problems, call or email Peter or another club member.

## Well Wishes

Thoughts and Prayers go out to the following:

To the family of Richard E. Cox, SK 10/28/2021

*Please inform the Vice President and Ham Chatter of any changes or needs.*

## Next VE Session

Please bring to the Test the following, required:

- Photo ID (drivers license)
- Original Amateur Radio License
- Copy of Amateur Radio License
- Original CSCE's
- Copy of CSCE
- Test fee (Cash) .
- ♦ FRN number is required. \*
- ♦ A valid Email address will need to be provided.

See for further info: <https://qsl.net/w4amc/barcinfo.html#VE>

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## President's Corner, Peter Van Houten, N4PVH



Dear Members:

It is with a heavy heart that we have to inform you of the passing of our long time member and dear friend Richard Cox. Please read the separate article in the Ham Chatter for the rest of the story.

**ARES TRAILER:** On a lighter note, Jim AC4JL, Bernie WA4MOK and Mark KG4GVJ took the ARES trailer to the Scout Jamboree on the air (JOTA) this month and had a good time getting scouts introduced to Ham Radio. They did have some HF noise problems and generator problems even after the generator was serviced. The generator is getting on in years and may need to be replaced. I have created a PDF document on how to run the generator to eliminate some of the pitfalls of keeping that engine going. That will be posted in the trailer and available on the web page for download so that it is available at all times. This has raised the question of what should BARC do to upgrade the power sources of the trailer. Other issue is that the solar panel may not be putting out sufficient power to keep the battery charge full as the battery was discharged when I got it ready for JOTA. That should not happen if the panel is working. It may be the panel controller. I also know that the panel is not big enough to run the trailer completely on solar, a desirable goal for an emergency communications trailer. For those that follow the Amateur Radio Workbench Podcast, they have outfitted a trailer like ours just recently and looked and fitting sufficient solar power and enough batteries to run two stations for 24 hours over field day without a noisy generator. Check out the video here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cQUIGX17QVM>

HF noise issue of the trailer can be the residential area that JOTA occurred (environment factors) may have a lot of 110v LED bulbs (noise source), no ground rod was used, and possibly improving the Tarheel grounding to the trailer. Also the power line filter that Dave W4EJ and myself build and put in the trailer was not connected to the generator. This also points out that we need to have training and produce a "User's Manual" for the trailer so that these events go off smoothly. If the membership has ideas or want to help solve these problems, please write an email to [in-fo@w4amc.com](mailto:info@w4amc.com).

# President's Corner

## Continued

I have to give a round of applause to Jim, Mark and Bernie for supporting JOTA and we all can thank them for participating in a worthy event. We should make it a yearly event that we all support next year.

Next BARC meeting will be about the 80th anniversary of VOA and the special event that is going to happen on Feb 19-20, 2022 at Oakwood school. Our speaker will be Macon Dail WB4PMQ of VOA. Please be part of this and support it.

**MEETING LOCATION NEWS:** Negotiations with ECU have produced the following results: The former meeting location at The ECU/Greenville Centre is a no go as the finances department has vetoed our use after hours as it poses a security risk. We are exploring other meeting locations at ECU but they will charge \$75/meeting unless we start an ECU Amateur Radio Club, then it would be free.

We can will continue to meet at Oakwood school music room that has projectors and a sound system as we have done most of this year for regular meetings. For special meetings, Beth and Mark are trying to get the Christmas Party at Mark's church as they have a nice area with tables, chairs and a kitchen for the party. If this goes well, more meetings could be done there.

**GET OUT THE VOTE!** Yes, it is time to vote on the officers of BARC. Please come to the November 9th meeting at Oakwood School and vote. All write ins must be in at the time of voting. Due to the pandemic, we will also have email voting where the members that are on the email list will get an email that contains the ballot. Fill it out, sign it with your call sign (to make sure we do not have duplicates) and return it to our secretary (the only one to see the ballots) and will tabulate the result at the meeting. So if you do not get your email sent in time (6 hours before the meeting) or do not show up at the meeting, then your vote will not be counted! Here is the ballot so far (no write ins to date).

ELECTED POSITION	CURRENT 2021	<input type="checkbox"/>	NOMINATION 2022	<input type="checkbox"/>	WRITE-IN
President:	Peter VH (N4PVH)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Peter VH (N4PVH)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
1st V.Pres:	Dave Langley (W4YDY)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Byron Highland (K4BMH)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2nd V.Pres:	Byron Highland (K4BMH)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Judy Taber (W3JUJ)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Treasurer:	Jim Lowe (AC4JL)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Terry Monday (K4ZYD)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Secretary:	Beth Gonzalez (KN4FZB)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Beth Gonzalez (KN4FZB)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Trustee #1:	Bill Dawson (WA4SLC)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bill Dawson (WA4SLC)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Trustee #2:	Dave Wood (W4EJ)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dave Wood (W4EJ)	<input type="checkbox"/>	

We also need to have nominations for the BARC Awards of the Year, these will be presented at the Christmas party in December. Please send in your nominations with the voting.

**Ham of the Year:** An award to the person that has done the most to promote the club, been active at events, contributed to the well being of the club and it's members. The last three award winners are not eligible (W4EJ, W4YDY, N4PVH)

**Elmer of the Year:** This is awarded to the teacher of the year that has done the most to advance our understanding of Amateur Radio. Think of who has done the most educational talks at the meetings or helped out at our events.

**New Ham of the Year:** The person that is active member of the club and recently passed his or her first license in the last 2 years.

**YL of the Year:** The most active Young Lady (YL) or spouse of a member of the club that has contributed and been active in events.

**OM of the Year:** This is awarded to the Old Man (OM) of the club, an established male member that has been active and supported the club or others in the hobby.

AWARD	RULES	NOMINATION
Ham of the Year	Not eligible for 3 years	
Elmer of the Year	Teacher	
New Ham of the Year	Got new license in last 2 year	
YL of the Year	Any lady that helped the club	
OM of the Year	Any male that helped the club	

73 Peter, N4PVH

**Here is Richard E. Cox's obituary.**

Please accept Echovita's sincere condolences.

We are sad to announce that on October 28, 2021 we had to say goodbye to Richard E. Cox of Grifton, North Carolina, born in Hueytown, Alabama. You can send your sympathy in the guestbook provided and share it with the family. You may also light a candle in honor of Richard E. Cox or [send a beautiful flower arrangement](#) to the funeral service.

He was predeceased by : his parents, Curtis Cox and Margaret Cox; his wife Jacqueline "Jackie" Cox; and his sisters, Helen Mitchell and Jolene Weldon.

He is survived by : his daughters, Missy Lovelace (John) of Winterville, Patricia Garrett of Grifton and Kelly Kostelnik (Will) of Moundridge, KS; his grandchildren, Rev. Jay Lovelace (Cheyenne), Rev. Josh Lovelace (Duska), Officer Jeremiah Lovelace (Crista), Rebekah Almond (Lin), Joseph, Brodie and Logan Kostelnik; his great grandchildren, Isaiah, Jack of Landon, JD, Cody, Lauren, Ryleigh, Sawyer, Grant, Thad, Autumn, Henry, Everlee Lovelace, Jesse and Xandra Almond; and his brother-in-law Mitchell.

Visitation will be held on Monday, November 1st 2021 from 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM at the **Faith Baptist Church (114 Faith Baptist Rd, Ayden, NC 28513)**. A celebration of life will be held on Monday, November 1st 2021 at 2:00 PM at the same location.



His Meet The Member column in the November 2004 Ham Chatter.

<https://www.qsl.net/w4amc/hc/pdf/hc0411.pdf>

He changed his call from KI4CRD to K4CRD.

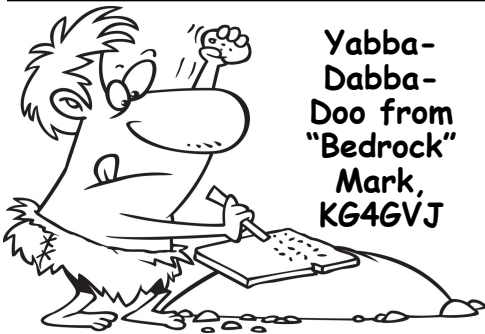
Richard Cox, 85, K4CRD, SK, October 28, 2021.

Richard was a very active member of BARC and served as a VE. Would have to check records but believe he served as an BARC officer for a couple of years. Great guy.

Obit and picture in Saturday Daily Reflector.

Obit at <https://www.echovita.com/us/obituaries/nc/grifton/richard-e-cox-13586019>





Hello Hams!

I'm writing this shortly before the end of October and I hope you all had a great Month. I'm sure you notice a lack of additional art work that I had provided in the past. A concern of possible Copyright problems was brought up and a request I don't include any that I haven't confirmed that it was okay to reprint. Well, there goes my fun of trying to provide some of what I hope was entertaining material.

This last October has brought about a partial Club activity of helping with the JOTA here in Greenville. It brought to life some needs and a learning on what we all may have. Not many of us know or knew about a AC filter to be used with the Gas generator for the Trailer, Not everyone knows how to use the IC-7300 radios, my Solar Generator needed a Reset so it can charge up while being used. Also a possibly issue with how well is the trailer parts and antenna mounts are grounded to each other. Some of the kids (Cub Scouts from Winterville and Greenville) seem to be interested and even with small groups, not easy for them to all see what was going on. Next time, it may be better to use the radio that's farther in so the can all get into the trailer.

### Help the Editor.

Do you have something to say or post? Want to write an article? Any ideas? Comments and notice's of help needed (Personal or club needs or activities. Can be BARC related or other Club's). Have interesting photo's or articles? Done something related to radio? Please let us know and we may add them to the Ham Chatter and web page Blog.

Send it along to the Editor at Ham Chatter. We will see if we can fit it in.

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## New Bern Amateur Radio Club starting Live Meetings

Next meeting @ 6:30 PM (Always 1st Monday of each month) at Moore's Old Tyme Chicken, BBQ & Seafood, 3621 Dr. M.L.K. Jr Blvd. New Bern, NC 28562 (next to Harris Teeter Shopping Center). Be sure to drop by and check out the New Bern Amateur Radio Webpage at <https://nbarc.org/> and check out the wealth of info on the LINKS page at <https://nbarc.org/ham-links/>

## Other Club's Zoom Meetings and News

### Forsyth Amateur Radio Club (FARC) W4NC

Like us, FARC is also having to deal with the Virus these days. They meet on the 2nd Monday of the month on ZOOM at 7:30 PM. The Log on is 294 418 122 with the Password being the club call in lower case.

They have also started to meet Live at Red Cross under the following conditions set by the Red Cross: 1. Fully vaccinated persons - no mask required, no social distancing required. 2. Un-vaccinated persons must wear a mask and must socially distance.

**ARES/Auxcomm** training is on the 3rd Thursdays at 8:30 PM at 897-9792-5844.

**Tech-Talk** is on Wednesdays at 7:30 PM (informal) 549 621 524.

Password is their Call sign.  
From FARC website.

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## BARC Board Meeting October 26, 2021

**In Attendance:** Bill Dawson WA4SLC, Beth Gonzalez KN4FZB, Byron Highland K4BMH, Dave Langley W4YDY, Mark Raysin KG4GVJ, Gerald Seighman KN4CKL, Judy Taber W3JUU, Peter Van Houten N4PVH, Dave Wood W4EJ

### **Business:**

Gerald (VE) testing with the Washington club on Nov 13.

Generator problems at Scout Jamboree, Generator doesn't run well and is RF noisy. We need to do a head to toe diagnostic check and figure out where the noise is coming from and how to remediate it. Possible sources include the noisy environment or the filter.

Another trailer project...check the grounding of the tarheel antenna, is there room for improvement? Need to put the ground rod in the ground.

We are also considering whether to upgrade to a new generator or expand to a solar and battery system. We need to look into the cost and functionality of each.

Peter is working on a PDF "cheat sheet" that will help any trailer operators to use the generator, 7300, and antenna. Also, the club members really need an in-person training opportunity too.

November 9th meeting: Peter has confirmed that Macon Dail will talk with us about the VOA 80th Anniversary Special Event.

Additionally on the 9th, we will conduct the election for the board members for 2022. Members will receive ballots by mail and can return them by mail, or bring them to the meeting. Please return to Beth Gonzalez KN4FZB. Mail in ballots must be received by the 8th.

Peter has been working on getting access to the VOA site C for the February VOA Special Event AND arranging for a meeting room at ECU. So far, ECU has been minimally responsive. Dave Wood's house is our back up site for the special event.

The December meeting will be our in-person Christmas party. Mark will confirm that we can use Emmanuel Baptist Church and Beth will assist with planning.

The January meeting will be Little Pistols With Wires: Robert McCaulay, WU4B. [Southeastern DX Club](#)  
[North Georgia QRP Club](#)

Byron will work on a February meeting, maybe with DXengineering.

Judy is waiting for more info on a CPR class. She will contact local fire departments if she doesn't hear from the primary source soon.

Members are encouraged to watch this podcast, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cQUIGX17QVM>, from Ham Radio Workbench about outfitting a comms trailer.

As always, members are encouraged to submit topics or specific speakers that they would be interested in hearing at club meetings.

Submitted by Beth KN4FZB

## ARES/AUXCOMM News



The five USB channelized 60-meter frequencies are available for interoperability (communication between services). By convention, Channel 1 is designated the calling channel. This convention is established to train the amateur radio community to reach out on Channel 1 in times of national emergency, for information from the federal government. The amateur radio community uses 60 meters on a secondary basis with federal agencies. This and similar 60-meter interoperability exercises are

conducted during the first full week of each month. More information [here](#). -  
**ARRL News**

We also suggest keeping clear of the Frequencies use by Hurricane nets during this season along with posted frequencies during other Emergencies. *Editor*

## BARC Needs YOU!

**BARC** needs to know where You think we should go as a Club. Service the Community, Contesting, Teaching, Elmering, What? Give us your thoughts. Contact Peter or the Ham Chatter.

## ARES Resources

- [Download the ARES Manual \[PDF\]](#)
- [ARES Field Resources Manual \[PDF\]](#)
- [ARES Standardized Training Plan Task Book \[Fillable PDF\]](#)
- [ARES Standardized Training Plan Task Book \[Word\]](#)
- [ARES Plan](#)
- [ARES Group Registration](#)
- [Emergency Communications Training](#)

The Amateur Radio Emergen-

cy Service® (ARES) consists of licensed amateurs who have voluntarily registered their qualifications and equipment, with their local ARES leadership, for communications duty in the public service when disaster strikes. Every licensed amateur, regardless of membership in ARRL or any other local or national organization is eligible to apply for membership in ARES. Training may be required or desired to participate fully in ARES. Please inquire at the local level for specific information. Because ARES is an amateur radio program, only licensed radio amateurs are eligible for membership. The possession of emergency-powered equip-

ment is desirable, but is not a requirement for membership.

How to Get Involved in ARES: Fill out the [ARES Registration form](#) and submit it to your local Emergency Coordinator.

Articles in the Chatter can be from the ARRL Newsletters, ARES Newsletters and Section Managers. Others can be Material provided by others. Please respect possible copyrights.

## AUXCOMM Training

### REQUIRED TRAINING

The State of North Carolina has mandated that all personnel performing any functions within any Emergency Operations Center, forward Command Post, or any Incident where Incident Command System (ICS) is used have completed basic ICS training. This training is available via the FEMA Learning Institute's on-line training system at <https://training.fema.gov/nims/>. Training required is ICS-100, ICS-200, ICS-700 and ICS-800.

It is recommended taking the courses in the following order: ICS-700, ICS-800, ICS-100 and ICS-200. You will be asked to register for the courses and a certificate of training will be issued upon successful completion. Team members are requested to forward an electronic copy of their certificate's to the AuxComm - ARES EC at the email address below. Completion of these courses will permit AuxComm - ARES team members to perform Radio Operator at duties an EOC or other ICS Command location. Each course is self-paced and should take approximately 3 hours to complete on-line.

### SB QST ARL ARLB014 ARLB014 FCC Auto- Registration Feature for Exam Applicants to be Discontinued

Auto-registration in the FCC Commission Registration System (CORES) amateur radio exam for candidates using a Social Security number will be discontinued on May 20, 2021. Applicants must use an FCC Registration Number (FRN) for all license transactions with the FCC.

Examinees must register in CORES and receive an FRN before exam day.

Starting on May 20, electronic batch filed applications that do not include a candidate's FRN will be rejected. The Social Security/Licensee ID Field will be disabled.

The CORES website can be accessed at:

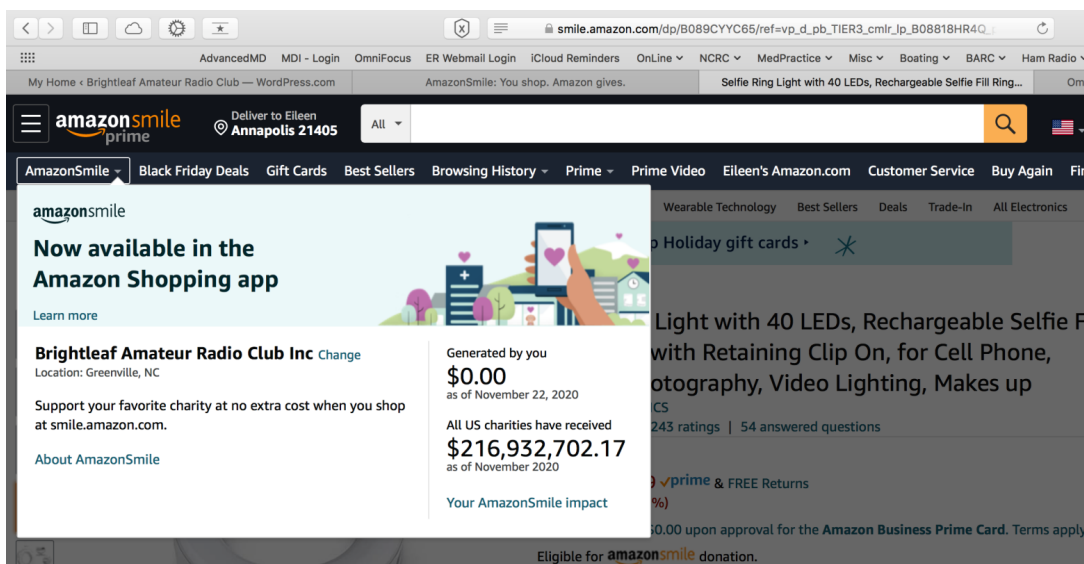
<https://apps.fcc.gov/cores/userLogin.do> .

## ARRL Learning Network Webinars

Visit the [ARRL Learning Network](#) (a members-only benefit) to register, check on upcoming webinars, and to view previously recorded sessions.

ARRL members may register for upcoming presentations and view previously recorded Learning Network webinars. ARRL-affiliated radio clubs may also use the recordings as presentations for club meetings, mentoring new and current hams, and discussing amateur radio topics.

ARRL members may register for upcoming presentations and view previously recorded [Learn-](#)



## Amazonsmile

Shop Amazon? Go to Amazonsmile and select “Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club” as your donation. Keep using this page and a percentage of your purchases will go toward your club.

[ing Network](#) webinars. ARRL-affiliated radio clubs may also use the recordings as presentations for club meetings, mentoring new and current hams, and discussing amateur radio topics.

The ARRL Learning Network schedule is subject to change.

### Enjoy Two Weekends of Fun During the ARRL November Sweepstakes

The [ARRL November Sweepstakes](#) (SS) weekends loom large on the amateur radio contest horizon. The CW weekend is November 6 - 8, while the phone weekend is November 20 - 22. Both events begin on Saturday at 2100 UTC and conclude on Monday at 0259 UTC.

The SS offers operating categories for every preference. The goal for many seasoned SS operators is to complete a "clean sweep" by contacting all 84 ARRL and Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) [Sections](#). Canada's Prince Edward Island province joined the list last year. Most SS operators try to run up the contact and multiplier counts and stay in the chair for the full 24 (out of 30) allowable hours.

The competition can be fierce, and the pileups can be huge. In 2020, ARRL received 1,445 logs for the CW event and 2,046 for the phone event.

Some Sections are harder to contact than others. Northern Territories (NT) is always a challenge, but there's a slim chance that snagging NT could be easier this year.

Gerry Hull, W1VE (also VE1RM), is hoping to operate as VY1AAA for both weekends, using "J" Allen's, VY1JA, Yukon Territory station remotely from the US. Now in his mid-70s, Allen essentially retired from ham radio a few years ago due to health issues, but he's bounced back this year with renewed enthusiasm and working to get a station and antennas ready for Hull to operate. At this

point, he's sorting through a backyard scrap pile that includes tower sections he had up in the past. He wants to get 80 - 100 feet assembled and clamped to a sturdy utility pole. Hull says Allen is committed to the task.

"VY1JA is now in re-construction," Allen says on his [QRZ.com](#) profile. "There is only a small chance that it will be done and on the air for SS CW this year. If so, signals may be weaker than in the past, with only a 100 W Omni VII and wire antennas. Plans for building an amp failed, and antenna work has taken far longer than expected."

Hull said if Allen does manage to erect the antenna support tower, VY1AAA will have inverted V antennas for 20 and 40 meters, which Hull considers "the money bands from Yukon on CW."

"So, hoping for good weather and good health for J, and then we might have VY1AAA on for the masses for SS CW," he said. Hull said if the CW weekend is successful, he'll consider also operating in the phone event.

Other difficult Sections to contact include Delaware, Puerto Rico, the US Virgin Islands, Pacific, and North Dakota. (Alaska, Hawaii and other US territories in the ARRL Pacific Section, Puerto Rico, and the US Virgin Islands count as W/VE stations, not as DX, for the SS.)

Contesters, especially the less experienced, often want to know how to handle duplicate contacts (dupes). It's almost a given that this will happen in SS. While some operators still set up a "hot key" to send "WKD B4" on CW when encountering a dupe, current best practice is to work the apparent dupe, log it, and move on. While dupes don't earn any points, they also don't mean you'll incur a NIL (not-in-log) penalty if the apparent dupe did not log the initial contact for one reason or another.

The SS exchange is patterned on traffic-handling terminology. For both the CW and phone events,

stations exchange a sequential serial number (no leading zeros are required), an operating category (precedence), call sign, the last two digits of the year first licensed (check), and ARRL/RAC Section.

Most areas of the US change from Daylight Saving Time to Standard Time at 2 AM local time on November 7, by moving clocks back 1 hour. UTC is not affected.

Logs are due within 7 days after the event is over. Certificates will be awarded in the top operator CW and Phone scores in each category in each ARRL/RAC Section and Division, and plaques will be awarded to the Overall and Division winners. Icom America is the principal awards sponsor.

An operating guide that relates some of the history and evolution of these North American contests is available under "Operating Guidelines" on the [ARRL November Sweepstakes](#) page.

### Hams Support Chicago Marathon

A team of 135 radio amateurs from four states supported medical teams volunteering for the [Bank of America Chicago Marathon](#) on October 10. The Chicago Marathon is the third largest marathon in the world. This marked the 13th year that amateur radio volunteers have partnered with the marathon medical team to help coordinate responses, arrange for deployment of medical supplies, and provide situational awareness for the organizers.

The largely flat marathon course has 20 aid stations on its 26.2-mile course, each with a medical tent. Hams are deployed at each medical tent to support communication for the medical teams.

There are two main communication nets: a medical net and a logistics net, and nine repeaters support these nets. Most of the repeaters belong to local clubs, but five temporary repeaters are also deployed.

In addition to passing urgent medical and health-and-welfare traffic, ham radio volunteers also provide situational awareness for race organizers, such as updating the number of individuals under care at each medical tent. Hams at each medical tent are also responsible for changing the event alert flag, which informs runners of course conditions so they can adjust their pace. This year, the flags were changed to red because of the humidity and an increased potential for serious heat-related injuries.

Most communication is done via FM repeaters. If a runner develops a problem, spotters alert a rapid-response medical team, each with a ham volunteer to handle communication. In serious situations, hams can call into the Forward Command post to dispatch medical assistance. Ten ham volunteers in Forward Command serve as net controls, traffic handlers, logging specialists, and expeditors.

The event provides plenty of personal challenges. Many ham volunteers report to their duty stations very early in the morning to conduct roll calls at 6 AM, and many remain on course until the event ends at around 4 PM. The hams and the medical teams must adjust to the weather as well. Hams also serve the aid stations where race volunteers dispense water and Gatorade. In the event of an emergency, hams shadow the aid station captain to facilitate communication with Forward Command.

Even in an era of ubiquitous cell phones, ham radio remains able to provide an independent resource that can back up all other communication.

Read [an expanded version](#) in this week's edition of *The ARES Letter*. -- *Thanks to Rob Orr, K9RST, via The ARES Letter*

## Announcements

France's youngest ham is 10-year-old Florian Barret, FR4UG, who lives on Reunion Island.

ARRL's YouTube channel, *ARRLHQ*, has launched a series of amateur radio Technician-class li-

cense courses. This series of videos features Dave Casler, KE0OG, QST's "Ask Dave" columnist, who leads viewers through [The ARRL Ham Radio License Manual](#). These videos supplement the manual and provide an overview of the sections students will study, along with a few videos on how things work.

Share this excellent resource with those who are preparing to take the Technician exam, and visit the [ARRLHQ YouTube channel](#) for more great amateur radio videos.

- Radio Club Argentina celebrates its 100th anniversary on October 21. Special event station L21RCA has been active throughout the year.

The [WRTC 2022](#) organizing committee has announced final qualification standings for [team leaders](#) and [teammates](#). The organizers note that WRTC 2022 has been postponed until July 2023.

The International DX Association ([INDEXA](#)) has a new mailing address. It is 2309 Lincoln Ave., Saint Albans, WV 25177.

Bob Bruninga, WB4APR, reports that the NO-104 satellite has been enabled for APRS-to-voice (A2V) mode. Information on how to use this and other features of this satellite is on the [PSAT2 website](#). "PSAT2 voltage telemetry has failed, so we will turn the PSAT2 user modes on as long as they work," Bruninga said.

## ARRL on the Purpose of Amateur Radio



For over 100 years amateur radio and ARRL — the National Association for Amateur Radio® — have stood for the development of the science and art of communications, public service, and the enhancement of international goodwill. Amateur Radio's long history and service to the public has solidified the well-earned reputation that "Amateur Radio saves lives."

Amateur Radio Operators, due to their history of public service, their training, and the requirement that they be licensed by the FCC have earned their status as a component of critical communications infrastructure and as a reliable resource "when all else fails."

Amateur Radio is about development of communications and responsible public service. Its misuse is inconsistent with its history of service and its statutory charter. ARRL does not support its misuse for purposes inconsistent with these values and purposes.

## ARRL Podcasts Schedule

The latest episode of the On the Air podcast (Episode 22) features a discussion with Chris Plumblee, W4WF, about contesting and what this activity has to offer new amateurs.

The latest edition of Eclectic Tech (Episode 44) features Steve Allen, KC1SA, and a discussion about the current electronics parts shortage and what it may mean for amateurs.

The On the Air and Eclectic Tech podcasts are sponsored by Icom. Both podcasts are

available on iTunes (iOS) and Stitcher (Android) as well as on Blubrry -- [On the Air](#) | [Eclectic Tech](#).

## ARRL Learning Network Webinars

Visit the [ARRL Learning Network](#) (a members-only benefit) to register, check on upcoming webinars, and to view previously recorded sessions.

ARRL members may register for upcoming presentations and view previously recorded [Learning Network](#) webinars. ARRL-affiliated radio clubs may also use the recordings as presentations for club meetings, mentoring new and current hams, and discussing amateur radio topics.

The [ARRL Learning Network](#) schedule is subject to change

## Announcements

The International DX Association ([INDEXA](#)) will support the [3Y0J DXpedition](#) to Bouvet Island in November-December 2022 with a grant of \$15,000.

- Members of the Russian Robinson Club will celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Antarctic Treaty signing with special call signs R60ANT, RA60ANT, RB60ANT, RC60ANT, RG60ANT, RJ60ANT, RK60ANT, RL60ANT, RN60ANT,

RT60ANT, RU60ANT, RZ60ANT, and RI60ANT, between October 1 and December 31.

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## Be a Net Control

Volunteer to help with the Weekly Net for BARC, or other nets. All are welcomed. It's great practice for if you need it for later, like First Aid training. A script is available to read off of to help in the progress.

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The [San Francisco Radio Club](#) has announced it will be running its second club OTA Trifecta event this year on Angel Island in San Francisco Bay on November 6. Special event station W6P will be on the air. The OTA-Trifecta is single event that combines simultaneous Parks on the Air (POTA), US Islands on the Air (US Islands OTA), and Summits of the Air (SOTA) activations. Separate stations will be on the air 1830 - 2130 UTC to represent the three activities. All stations will be battery operated.

- Finnish radio operators OH2BH, OH2TA, OH5BM, and OH5LLR will join the Amateur Radio Society of Kosovo (SHRAK) team at Z60A for the CQ World Wide SSB Contest. They will activate two stations on all bands.

- Arunava Dey, VU3XRY, has reported what he is calling the first-ever Parks on the Air (POTA) activation from India. He and Abhrajit Das, VU3YDA, operated from Kanchanjungha National Park (VU-0081), he said.

[ARRL Audio News](#)® is available free each Friday, providing a look at the week's ham radio news happenings. [Contact ARRL Audio News](#) with questions and comments. The webcast is available on the ARRL website as well as on [Blubrry](#) and may be transmitted freely via repeater at no cost.

## Disaster Relief in the Wake of Flooding

The administration of the Thrissur District in Kerala, India, sought the service of radio amateurs to support communications during disaster relief operations in the wake of incessant rain and resultant flooding that disrupted lives across central Kerala, *The Economic Times* [has reported](#). The hams have set up stations in the district to overcome the possibility that conventional telecommunications may fail.

"Communication turns out to be a major challenge when natural calamities strike," Sarachandran C. S., VU2SCV, told the *Press Trust of India* news agency. "During heavy floods, there are chances that the power supply will be down for days, which will affect the communication systems, including the mobile phones." Sarachandran, a former merchant navy officer, was one of 10 operators volunteering to help the Thrissur administration to handle emergency communication.

CNN [reports](#) that at least 27 people were killed after heavy rain triggered floods and landslides in southern India. According to their report, torrential rain in mid-October caused rivers to swell and flooded roads, leaving vehicles submerged in muddy water. Some houses were "reduced to rubble," CNN said.

Ham radio volunteers have been recruited to assist during previous natural disasters in India, including an August 2018 flood that ravaged Kerala state. Sarachandran recounted that during the August 2018 event, as the state flooded and power outages affected communication, the district administration sought the assistance of radio amateurs.

## Well-Known Amateur Radio Contester and DXer Will Roberts, AA4NC, SK

An experienced and successful member of the amateur radio contesting and DX community lost his life on October 21 as the result of a small plane crash. ARRL Life Member William "Will" Roberts, AA4NC, of Apex, North Carolina, was piloting the plane, which went down not long after take-off in a wooded area of Onslow County, North Carolina, near the Holly Ridge/Topsail Island Airport, killing Roberts and another passenger, identified as Willie Hobbs, Jr. Two children were hospitalized with injuries. Roberts, 61, was the owner of the Mooney M20J aircraft and held a commercial pilot's license.

A licensed radio amateur since 1976, Roberts became interested early on in contesting and DXing and enjoyed being "on the DX end of the pileup," as he said in his [QRZ.com profile](#). Over the years, Roberts operated from many locations, including some in South and Central America and others in more exotic locales. He was a regular at the Dayton Hamvention®. He is on the DXCC Honor Roll, had achieved nine-band DXCC on HF, and VUCC on 6 meters. He also enjoyed RTTY. AA4NC took part regularly in events like the ARRL 160-Meter Contest and ARRL November Sweepstakes. He participated in the first World Radiosport Team Championship (WRTC) event in 1990 in Seattle and served as a judge at WRTC 2018 in Germany.

A member of the Potomac Valley Radio Club (PVRC), Roberts was the trustee of W4MR, used occasionally in contests from his home contest station.

Roberts was also a guitarist and vocalist who played solo acoustic shows in the coastal Carolinas and belonged to the Flying Musicians Association ([FMA](#)).

A graduate of North Carolina State University, Roberts was an electrical engineer, specializing in telecommunications.

Investigators from the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) are looking into the cause of the crash.

## WinLink Nets and Practice

### Great Lakes Area Winlink Net Started

A new Great Lakes Winlink Net has been started to promote the use of Winlink and training on the various facets of the hybrid amateur radio data/internet system. The net is open primarily to those states that border any of the Great Lakes: Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and New York, and the Canadian province of Ontario. However, radio amateurs wishing to check in from other states or provinces anywhere are welcomed to participate. This net is modeled on the [Wisconsin ARES Winlink net](#).

The net check-in process is as follows: Send either a basic, plain text message, or use any of the forms templates on the Winlink Express platform available that will allow you to include the following line of text in the body of the message or in an appropriate part on the form you choose to send: FIRST NAME, CALLSIGN, CITY, COUNTY, STATE, COUNTRY. For example: RYAN, KB8RCR, REMUS, MECOSTA, MICHIGAN, USA.

The net started on Wednesday, March 10, and each week on Wednesdays, amateurs may send their messages or forms any time during the day using Winlink in any mode available, RF or via Telnet. Send your message to KB8RCR as the recipient on Winlink. - *Ryan Lughermo, KB8RCR, ARRL Assistant Section Emergency Co-*

*ordinator for Data Management/Special Projects, Michigan Section; and Official Relay Station*  
From ARES March 2021 Newsletter  
(Editors Note: Great way to learn and practice)

The EmComm Training Organization (ETO) will continue the popular Winlink Thursday exercises to foster Winlink-knowledgeable operators across the country leading up to a nationwide drill November 13, 2021. Procedures will include a weekly exercise for routine practice with a fourth Thursday exercise of a more challenging nature. Exercises will almost always include a Winlink Express Check-in form. Please [send questions about Winlink Thursdays](#). Questions about the ETO group can be sent [here](#).

The Canadian American Net ([CANAM](#)) aims to unite hams in the Eastern US and Canada. Some 40 amateurs from Canada and the US typically check in for each session, and the net accommodates CW and SSB. The Canadian-American Net operates 7 days a week on 7.153 MHz, with check-in starting at 1300 UTC.

**Recommend** programming your local Emergency Simplex frequency's into your Radio's. It's easier now than when you need them. Brightleaf Amateur radio Club uses the Repeater frequency in case of Repeater failure.

## NETS

### VHF/UHF

- ◆BARC Net, Mondays, 2000 on 147.09 MHz, W4GDF Repeater.
- ◆Down East Hospital Net, 2nd Tuesday of each month at noon  
Greenville 444.725 MHz, 91.5 tone N4HAJ  
Fountain 444.425 MHz, 88.5 Tone N4HAJ
- ◆Newport SkyWarn Tues. nights 2100E  
Grifton-146.685-88.5 tone
- ◆Newport-145.450..... IRLP 8561 links to Columbia
- ◆Jacksonville-147.000- 88.5 tone
- ◆Oriental-147.210-151.4 tone
- ◆444 Newport-444.825- 88.5 tone
- ◆Swansboro-146.760- 88.5 tone
- ◆Grantsboro-145 230 - 85.4 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.
- ◆Wilson Amateur Radio Club Net, Thursdays @ 2000 on 146.76 MHz.
- ◆ Piedmont Coastal Traffic Net, Nightly 2030 on 146.88 MHz.
- ◆Carteret County ARS (CCARS) Emergency Net, Tuesdays, 1930 on the Newport 145.45 (-) MHz.
- ◆Coastal Emergency Linking Net, Wednesday, 2100 ET on Ahoskie 145.13, Buxton 145.15, Columbia 146.835 & 443.30, Elizabeth City 146.655, Greenville, 145.35, Hertford 147.33, Williamston 145.41 & 444.25
- ◆ 220 Net, Wednesday 2000hrs, 224.840 MHz -1.6, PL 91.5

### HF

- Tar Heel Emergency Communications Net on 3923 kHz Nightly 1930.
- NTS CW Nets
- ◆3.571 2000 hours, slow speed (5-8 wpm)  
Carolinas Slow Net
- ◆3.573 1900 hours, high speed (20wpm)
- ◆3.573 2200 hours, slow speed (12-14 wpm),  
South Carolina/North Carolina
- National Traffic System**  
Eastern North Carolina Traffic Net (ENCTN)  
146.685 (146.085 in) MHz (PL 88.5) 2030E

## BARC Email Addresses

- \*[Info@w4amc.com](mailto:Info@w4amc.com)  
to Peter Van Houten, N4PVH
- \*[Treasurer@w4amc.com](mailto:Treasurer@w4amc.com)  
to Jim Lowe, AC4JL
- \*[Hamchatter@w4amc.com](mailto:Hamchatter@w4amc.com)  
to Mark Raysin, KG4GVJ
- \*[QSL-VE@w4amc.com](mailto:QSL-VE@w4amc.com)  
to Richard Campbell, W4JNC
- \*[Secretary@w4amc.com](mailto:Secretary@w4amc.com)  
To Beth Gonzalez, KN4FZB

## Virginia EmComm



A Facebook Group that practices WinLink and other related modes every Wednesday. Many Hams all over involved.

**PRIMARY NET CONTROL: KW6GB**

See Facebook Group for more details. Joining group required to see page and comment.

( Example of a Wednesday)

**\*\*\* Winlink Wednesday (Episode #252) \*\*\***  
**07/07/2021**

This being the first Wednesday of the month, weather snapshots are requested; see below for details (no attachments of any type, please). Standard check-ins are always welcome.

**WHO:** All amateur radio operators

**WHAT:** Winlink Wednesday

**WHEN:** Wednesday, 7 July 2021, 0000-2359 EDT (*UTC: 0400 Wed - 0359 Thu*)

**HOW:** *This net will accept check-ins via Winlink only. Send a check-in via any RMS during the timeframe above, or participate in one or both of the P2P sessions below.*

*Please do not use a "Telnet Winlink" connection (which defeats the purpose of Winlink). The goal is to have the message leave your station via RF.*

Please remember to use the correct format for check-in, as shown below (check-in message on a SINGLE LINE), or with optional weather snapshot on second line, over an RF connection.

**To:** KW6GB (*or alternate NCS, as appropriate*)

**Subject:** Winlink Wednesday Check-In

**Message body:** call sign, first name, city or town, county, state (HF or VHF, etc.)

**observation time, weather conditions, temperature <<<--- WEATHER ON SECOND LINE**

See example in my signature line, below.

### **PEER-TO-PEER SESSIONS:**

**Morning session:** 0730-0930 EDT, (*UTC: 1130 - 1330*), **ARDOP P2P**, several frequencies (see chart below).

**Net Control Stations - Morning P2P Session Only**

Role	Station	Dial Frequency	Operator	Location
Primary	KW6GB	3582 kHz	Greg Butler	Warren County, VA
Alternate	KM4DC	3585 kHz	Don McCubbin	Fairfax County, VA
Alternate	KN4LQN	3590.5 kHz	David Elkins	Chesterfield County, VA
Alternate	N4ACK	3565 kHz	Lyle Piner	Isle of Wight County, VA
Messages sent to Alternate NCS must be addressed to the receiving station.				

**Afternoon session:** None.

**Evening session:** 1900-2130 EDT, (UTC: 2300 Wed - 0130 Thu), *VARA P2P*, 3582 kHz (dial).

**Net Control Station - Evening P2P Session**

Role	Station	Dial Frequency	Operator	Location
Primary	KW6GB	3582 kHz	Greg Butler	Warren County, VA
No Alternate Net Control Stations.				

Watch Facebook for details when active.

On Thursday, all check-ins will be acknowledged, and a net report and complete roster will be published to the Web.

73,  
 KW6GB, Greg, Front Royal, Warren, VA (VHF)  
 0815L, clear, winds calm, 69dF



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Greetings from the High Country

Fall is definitely on its march through the High Country. Our low temperature Monday morning came at 8:09 am when we bottomed out at 41.4 degrees. However, we hit a low of 38.3 degrees at 8:39 a.m. on October 17. Saturday was gusty with a high wind of 25 mph and it soon will be time to get out the leaf blower and the rake since nearly a third of the leaves are off the trees here at my home between Boone and Blowing Rock.

Winter is coming but there is still time to work on antennas before icy and windy weather arrives.

#### ARRL MATTERS

#### Volunteer Monitor Program Report

Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, has posted the September 2021 Volunteer Monitoring Program which can be found at

[www.arrl.org/news/september-2021-volunteer-monitor-program-report](http://www.arrl.org/news/september-2021-volunteer-monitor-program-report).

Among the highlights are:

- Advisory notices were sent to several Technician class licensees for making numerous FT8 contacts on 20 meters where Technicians do not have operating privileges;
- A former licensee received an advisory notice for operating and using a call that was canceled by the FCC;
- A General class licensee in Tennessee was contacted concerning operation of 7.137 MHz, which is outside the privileges granted to General Class license holders;
- Two operators (one in North Carolina) received Good Operator Notices for exemplary operation and for assistance given to other operators concerning transmitter adjustments and operating practices;
- A Volunteer Monitor was commended by the Department of Homeland Security, US Coast Guard for assistance in locating a defective transmitter that was blocking traffic on Marine Channel 16.

Each of us should be grateful to Riley and the team of Volunteer Monitors for their efforts to improve compliance with FCC regulations.

I have heard stuff on 7200 KHz that gives amateur radio a black eye but is not typical of how most amateurs operate.

### How Many Hams Are There?

The ARRL recently posted

(<http://www.arrl.org/news/data-on-number-of-radio-amateurs-worldwide-needs-updating>)

an article that there may be fewer amateur radio operators than previously reported. Until recently, the conventional wisdom was that there are about three million amateurs worldwide. However, the story notes that the number of amateurs may be closer to 1.75 million due to substantial changes in numbers reported in some countries—for example, Japan has seen a two-decade decline of 600,000 licensees and other countries appear to have fewer operators than once thought. ARRL also pointed out that the 780,000 ham licensees in the US likely overstates the number of active operators who are on the air.

### Where Do US Hams Live?

Sorted by the number of FCC amateur licenses in each state, here are the top ten states as of October 16, 2021:

California	104,937
Texas	54,643
Florida	43,911
Washington	34,945
Ohio	28,341
New York	27,639
Pennsylvania	24,717
North Carolina	22,703
Arizona	22,172
Michigan	21,570

### Simulated Emergency Test(s)

As mentioned in the previous newsletter, local groups are encouraged to conduct a Simulated Emergency Test that focuses on a likely scenario that may affect your local operations. Possible scenarios that you may want to consider include loss of the local repeater, extended power outages requiring backup power, disruption of internet due to a fiber cut, or other scenarios that include providing comms for the Red Cross at local shelters.

It is never too late to test your readiness and to adapt and improve local plans. This can be done any time during the year. If you do conduct an SET, drop me a line describing your exercise and lessons learned.

### Hamfests

October 23, 2021 – Carolina Amateur Radio Emergency Services Hamfest will be held at the Southside Baptist Church in Gaffney, South Carolina.

A map and information can be found at

<http://arrl.org/hamfests/carolina-amateur-radio-emergency-services-hamfest-c-a-r-e-s>

November 21, 2021 – JARSFEST, put on by the Johnston Amateur Radio Society, will be held at the American Legion Complex, 605 North Wall Street in Benson.

Information is available at <https://www.jars.net/jarsfest-2021>

October 30, 2021 -- Although not a hamfest, the Franklin Amateur Radio Club in Southwestern North Carolina invites visitors to come out to their Foxhunt. Contact William Van Nuys ([n4ooc@aol.com](mailto:n4ooc@aol.com)) for details in case you have problems with their flyer which I downloaded at <http://www.jbewing.com/FoxHunt.pdf> .

Kaylee, KO4QXV, a twelve year old ham in their club, is available to talk about ham radio to students in nearby schools.

#### Interesting Streaming Videos

- Helping People Have Fun with Amateur Radio, presented by Dan Romanchik, KB6NU, which can be viewed at [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BKFArhfk\\_98](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BKFArhfk_98)
- Remote Ham Radio with ICOM Software & Peripherals, presented by Mark Weiss, K6FG, which can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=waFcC7t-d2c>
- Propagation and Cycle 25, presented by Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA, which can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pynWQIAuMeE>
- Winterizing Your Station, presented by Tim Duffy, K3LR, of Ham Nation, which can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=colWdw-tdXc>
- Curt Bartholomew, N3GQ, FCC Emergency and Continuity Manager, gave a talk last week about Amateur Radio and Emergency Communications. His talk can be viewed at <https://vimeo.com/635459997> .
- IEEE Move, an activity supported by the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, now operates two vehicles that are based near the Research Triangle Park. The vehicles have extensive communications capabilities and have been used to support emergency management agencies in the United States and other areas when normal communications are disrupted. A video about the vehicles can be viewed at <https://vimeo.com/608457207> .

## EmComm Matters

Homeland Security CISA has issued the National Interoperability Field Operation Guide 2.0 which can be downloaded at <https://www.cisa.gov/safecom> . This guide has a great deal of information brought into a single document. A spiral-bound pocket copy will be available for purchase around the first of the year.

## SILENT KEYS

Please let me know when a ham friend or club member passes away so that appropriate notice can be made in QST. A link to a published obituary is required by ARRL to qualify for QST listing.

Best wishes to each of you.

Marv, WA4NC

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ARRL North Carolina Section

Section Manager: Dr Marvin K Hoffman, WA4NC [wa4nc@arrl.org](mailto:wa4nc@arrl.org)

## Can an Amateur Radio Handheld Stop a Train? Texas Club Averts a Train Disaster

Every year in the city of Weatherford (Parker County), Texas, the Peach Festival is held. As part of the festival, a bicycle ride - the Peach Pedal -- is conducted, supported by the cooperative efforts of local amateur radio clubs and their volunteers. This year, the TriCounty Amateur Radio Club of Azle, Texas, performed the pre-event legwork and organized the net control operators, rest stop operators, and the SAG (support and gear) vehicle operators. The Amateur Radio Club of Parker County and other clubs' members were signed up for other various radio positions to support the bicycle ride event. The forecast was fine.

The net control plan also called for a Parker County RACES operator to work the radios in the Parker County Emergency Operations Center (EOC). This operator would be able to help with radio traffic between the Fire/EMS Dispatchers, the bicycle ride amateur radio net control, and the county Sherriff's deputies performing traffic control at busy intersections. The usual ride startup radio traffic came and went, and then the calls for SAG began to increase for flat tires, broken chains, muscle cramps, and exhausted riders.

And then, cutting through the steady amateur radio traffic between the net control, rest stops, and SAGs, a SAG radio operator's voice could be heard transmitting, "Emergency, Emergency, Emergency." Mike Burns, KE5NCS, SAG 3 was sweeping the 61-mile course northbound on Bennett Road, following a pilot car and tractor/lowboy trailer with a large piece of equipment. The tractor-trailer high-centered and stopped on the Union Pacific Railroad road crossing. And then Burns heard an eastbound train blowing its horn for the road crossing. Net control Jon Diner, N5JLD, issued a standby, hold all radio traffic order, and transmitted, "Go ahead with your Emergency traffic, SAG 3."

Burns then transmitted: "Yes, there is a lowboy heavy equipment hauler with a bulldozer on it that just got high centered on the railroad tracks at Bennett Road and Goen Road; it can't move, and there is a train coming." In the EOC, the Fire/EMS dispatcher said, "What did he just say?" just as net control N5JLD transmitted, "Please repeat your Emergency traffic."

The EOC Ride Control operator, Thad Weikal, KG5ATD, turned up the radio audio to near maximum so the dispatcher could hear the radio traffic clearly. As SAG 3 KE5NCS was repeating his Emergency traffic, the dispatcher said, "I am getting Union Pacific Railroad on the phone right now." Weikal at the EOC used a Fire/EMS radio to make a county-wide call to the county law enforcement dispatcher: "County, this is EOC Ride Control with Emergency traffic." The county dispatcher replied, "Go ahead with your Emergency traffic, EOC." "County, the railroad tracks at Bennett and Goen Roads are blocked by a tractor-trailer hauling a bulldozer, and there is a train approaching." The EOC dispatcher said, "U.P. has put out an all stop on all trains on that track." A County Deputy asked, "EOC, what was that location?" "Bennett Road and Goen Road." "Copy, I am en route," followed by radio silence.

When the EOC dispatcher's phone rang, the dispatcher answered and relayed, "U.P. says that they are showing all trains at full stop on that track." Weikal made a radio call to the County dispatcher, saying, "County, this is EOC Ride Control, Union Pacific is reporting all trains at full stop on that track at Bennett Road." "County copies that, EOC." Weikal then made a radio call to the ride net control, N5JLD: "Net control, this is EOC." "Go ahead, EOC." "Net control, Union Pacific is reporting all trains on that track at full stop." "Copy that, EOC." "SAG 3, net control." "SAG 3, go ahead." "SAG 3, EOC is reporting that Union Pacific is showing all trains at full stop on that track at Bennett Road." "Uh...yeah...I can see...that..." -- the eastbound train had stopped 30 yards short of the tractor-trailer. There were no injuries or equipment damage. Weikal reported the road crossing clear 1 1/2 hours later. Yes, an amateur radio handheld can stop a train.

Thanks went out to all amateur radio volunteers and fire/dispatch operators for their quick effort to help narrowly prevent a disastrous collision between a train and a tractor-trailer hauling a bulldozer with a gross weight of 186,000 pounds. -- *Thad Weikal, KG5ATD, Amateur Radio Club of Parker County (Texas) Director*

## Students at UK School for Deaf Youngsters Enjoy Space Chat

Ten students at the [Mary Hare School](#) for deaf children in the UK took part in what appears to have been a world-first event for Amateur Radio on the International Space Station ([ARISS](#)). Facilitating the late-morning direct contact with astronaut Mark Vande Hei, KG5GNP, at NA1SS were ARISS-UK volunteers and members of the Newbury and District Amateur Radio Society (NADARS).



Mary Hare School student Jacob asks his question during the Mary Hare School contact with astronaut Mark Vande Hei, KG5GNP, on the ISS.

The ground station used the call sign GB4MHN. ARISS-UK volunteers handled the technical aspects, while NADARS members provided students with the "amateur radio experience" through events and activities.

Students asked their questions orally, and the astronaut's replies -- as well as questions and answers posed by the audience before the contact began -- were displayed in closed caption format beneath a huge video screen.

The Mary Hare School is an aural school for the deaf that teaches students to develop lip-reading skills and to make use of technology. Students range in age from 5 through 19 years old. An enthusiastic audience of some 250 individuals was in the auditorium, where the contact took place, while another 600 students at other locations in the school observed the contact via a web feed.

Leading up to the contact, students at the school learned about radio- and space-related topics that touched on physics, chemistry, and biology. Student activities have included designing and flying model rockets, making astronomical observations, and observing authentic spacesuits.

Students wanted to know if the astronauts used sign language in space in case something goes wrong, how the ISS would be evacuated in the event of a fire, and whether mobile devices such as cell phones work in space.

"You made my day!" Vande Hei said after all the questions had been asked and the students had applauded.

Thanks to ARISS, Amateur radio equipment has been on board the ISS for more than 20 years, and most astronauts hold ham radio licenses. ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio is an ARISS sponsor.

A [livestream](#) was available and has been archived.

## BARC Website, some Blog page Titles

[Hurricane Season in full swing! –  
Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club  
\(w4amc.com\)](#)

[What to do when you see a  
need... – Brightleaf Amateur Ra-  
dio Club \(w4amc.com\)](#)

[CQ WW VHF Contest – Bright-  
leaf Amateur Radio Club  
\(w4amc.com\)](#)

[Antenna Fun! – Brightleaf Ama-  
teur Radio Club \(w4amc.com\)](#)

[Field Day Report 6/27/2021 –  
Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club  
\(w4amc.com\)](#)

Even more than this on the  
website.  
Feel free to view, comment and

## Membership Dues are coming up!

Membership dues for BARC are due January 1 every year. Mem-  
bership dues are as follows and are almost the same as 2020: •  
Regular Member \$20.00 • Family Member \$2.00 • Associate Mem-  
ber (Non-Licensed) \$5.00 • Life Members \$0.00 • New Hams: Free  
first year

We are requesting that you send the application form in, so that we  
can have your correct information on file. The form can be down-  
loaded at:

<https://www.qsl.net/w4amc/barc-application.html>.

Please give the application and dues to the Treasurer at the meet-  
ing or mail your dues, along with the member application form to:  
Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 8387, Greenville, NC  
27835

Or go to <https://w4amc.com/membership/> to use PayPal at the  
page bottom.

If there are any questions concerning membership status or dues,  
please contact Jim Lowe, AC4JL, [Treasurer@w4amc.com](mailto:Treasurer@w4amc.com) or (252)  
320-6545.

Thank you for your continued support and participation in BARC.

**\*\*Renew/Join Now\*\***  
**Help Support BARC.**

## TARHEEL NET MANAGER

Mike Fagan, AE4MF, has done a fine job in the time that he has served as Net Manager for the Tarheel Emergency Net. He has informed me that he will move out of state at some time in the not too distant future.

If you are interested in becoming Net Manager of the Tarheel Net, let me or Mike (ae4mf at gmail) know of your interest. We would like the next Net Manager to have an opportunity to work with Mike before there is a vacancy. Duties include:

- a. Maintaining contact with net control stations for the various evening sessions.
- b. Recruiting net control stations when vacancies arise.
- c. Filing a monthly report with W4DNA Section Traffic Manager.
- d. Assist in developing a Net Operating Guide for distribution to net participants.

An ideal candidate would be one with a good hf signal heard across the state (subject to band conditions which are expected to improve), a willingness to work to increase net participation, and a desire to increase the usefulness of the Tarheel Net which has been in existence since 1947. The next Tarheel Net Manager may choose an Assistant Net Manager to assist the Net Manager.

## Announcements

Japanese Antarctica Research Expedition (JARL) station 8J1RL will be active from February 2021 to January 2022 with Takumi, JG3PLH, at the helm. 8J1RL is located at the Japanese Syowa Station on East Ongul Island in eastern Antarctica. Activity will be on SSB, CW, and FT8, 7 - 28 MHz.

## ***2022 ARRL National Convention Emergency Communications Training Track Not to be Missed***

It's not too early to plan on attending the 2022 ARRL National Convention, set to take place at Orlando HamCation® ([www.hamcation.com](http://www.hamcation.com)) on February 11 - 13. A day-long workshop on emergency communications is scheduled as one of the training tracks that will be offered as part of the National Convention program that will precede HamCation on Thursday, February 10. The training presentations will feature current protocols, techniques, and responsibilities for the modern volunteer radio operator serving partner public safety entities. The presenters are all subject-matter experts. Topics to be covered include the ARRL National and Florida Emergency Communicator Task Books, an overview of amateur radio responses to disasters, basic voice traffic handling with hands-on voice traffic net/message transfer practice, using the ICS-213 form, Winlink's ARDOP (Amateur Radio Digital Open) and VARA protocols, and the Radio Mail Server (RMS) hybrid internet/HF radio gateway system. Registration for the National Convention Training Tracks will open later this summer at [www.arrl.org/expo](http://www.arrl.org/expo).

## [www.arrl.org/2021-Hurricanes](http://www.arrl.org/2021-Hurricanes)

This page, [www.arrl.org/2021-Hurricanes](http://www.arrl.org/2021-Hurricanes), includes information and news summarizing the preparations and response by Amateur Radio (ham radio) volunteers who are supporting emergency communications in areas that may be (or have been) impacted by 2021 hurricanes. Ham radio operators provide a critical communications capability used for relaying life-saving information and to assist with reunification activities. Additionally, radio amateurs throughout affected regions often provide firsthand accounts of storm impact and ongoing recovery needs.

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### INFORMATION RESOURCES

#### National Hurricane Center

<https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/>

#### Tropical Tidbits (current forecast models)

<https://www.tropicaltidbits.com/>

#### Active Red Cross Shelters

[maps.redcross.org/website/maps/ARC\\_Shelters.html](https://maps.redcross.org/website/maps/ARC_Shelters.html)

#### Red Cross Safe and Well

[www.redcross.org/get-help/disaster-relief-and-recovery-services/contact-and-locate-loved-ones.html](https://www.redcross.org/get-help/disaster-relief-and-recovery-services/contact-and-locate-loved-ones.html)

#### Facebook Safety Check

[www.facebook.com/about/safetycheck](https://www.facebook.com/about/safetycheck)

#### Hurricane Watch Net

[hwn.org](http://hwn.org)

#### VOIP Hurricane Net

[voipwx.net](http://voipwx.net)

#### Amateur Radio at the National Hurricane Center

[www.WX4NHC.org](http://www.WX4NHC.org)

#### FEMA - Federal Emergency Management Agency

[www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov)

#### Ready.gov - Plan ahead for disasters

[www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov)

#### Hurricane Central - The Weather Channel

<https://weather.com/storms/hurricane>

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## Hurricane Season 2021: Nets to Know

[Caribbean Emergency Weather Net](#) - Meets daily at 1030Z and 2230Z on 3815 kHz.

[Hurricane Watch Net](#) -- 14.325 MHz, 7.268 MHz -- Activated whenever a hurricane is within 300 nautical miles of expected landfall. Disseminates storm information and relays meteorological data to National Hurricane Center via embedded NHC station WX4NHC. Also relays post-storm damage reports and other relevant information.

[Intercontinental Net](#) operates from 7 AM to noon US Eastern Time on 14.300 MHz, providing a means of emergency communications to any location where normal communications are disrupted.

[Marine Maritime Services Net](#) -- 14.300 MHz - - The network acts as a weather beacon for ships during periods of severe weather and regularly repeats high seas and tropical weather warnings and bulletins from the National Weather Service and the National Hurricane Center.

[Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network](#) (SATERN) -- 14.260 MHz -- The purpose of the SATERN net is to support the Salvation Army operations in local, regional and international disaster situations. - *ARRL US Virgin Islands Section News*

# 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. Or Email the Ham Chatter.**

## **Used Radios and equipment for Sale:**

Tytera MD 380 UHF DMR & Analog HT, includes one battery, and charger, and box.  
Programmed, but buyer will need to get an DMR ID, and change the ID in the HT  
Asking \$75.00

Bernard Nobles WA4MOK  
[wa4mok@embarqmail.com](mailto:wa4mok@embarqmail.com)

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# Ham Ads

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## 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**

Help support *Ham Chatter* and the club. **Donations accepted!**

## How to print a copy of your FCC License

by Jim, KV4SJ

To access an official copy of your license:

1. Go to: [HTTPS://wireless2.fcc.gov/UlsEntry/lieManager/login.jsp](https://wireless2.fcc.gov/UlsEntry/lieManager/login.jsp)
2. Log in with your FRN and password. (Also has links to find or get your FRN.)
3. Click on "Download Electronic Authorizations" in the links on the left hand side.
4. Select your call sign in the box labeled "My Authorizations" and click on the Add button to copy it into the "Authorizations to Download" box.
5. Click on the Download button to download an official copy of your license in PDF format.

via *Forsyth ARC Newsletter, August 2020*

### BARC MEMBERS

If you are not receiving *Ham Chatter* email notices, please send an email to [hamchatter@w4amc.com](mailto:hamchatter@w4amc.com) so I can get your email address. I know some have said they do not receive them but haven't sent me their address. You may miss some important BARC notices. - *KG4GVJ and W4YDY*

### BARC on FACEBOOK

<https://www.facebook.com/w4amc/>

### Facebook and Group details

<http://www.w4amc.com/barcnews.html#BARC>

### Pitt County Repeater Association

<http://www.pcra.us/>

### *Monday & Monday, CPA's, PA*

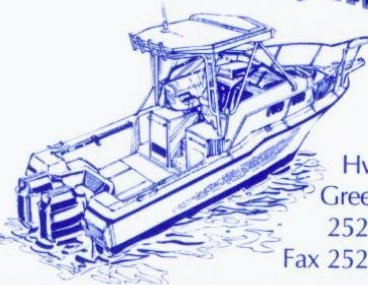
Certified Public Accountants

TERRY A. MONDAY, CPA, CVA, EA  
**K4ZYD**

105-D East Victoria Ct.  
Greenville, NC 27858

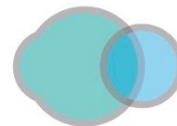
Phone (252) 321-6007  
Fax (252) 321-2991

### MARK'S MARINE, INC.



Mark Langley  
Mike Langley  
**KD4MTT**

Hwy. 33 East  
Greenville, NC  
252 758-3309  
Fax 252 758-1396



### East Carolina Retina CONSULTANTS

**Peter Van Houten, M.D.**

2501a Stantonsburg Road  
Greenville, NC 27834

252-758-2402

<https://ECRetina.com>

# BARC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 1 -- K1USN Slow Speed Test (CW, 20 WPM max)

November 1 -- Silent Key Memorial Contest (CW)

November 1 -- RSGB 80-Meter Autumn Series (digital)

November 2 -- Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest

November 2 -- ARS Spartan Sprint (CW)

November 2 -- RTTYops Weeksprint

November 3 -- Phone Weekly Test - Fray

November 3 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test (CW, two events)

November 3 -- VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest

November 3 -- UKEICC 80-Meter Contest (phone)

November 4 - 5 -- Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest (CW, 13 WPM max)

November 4 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test (CW, two events)

November 4 -- RTTYops Weeksprint

November 4 -- NRAU 10-Meter Activity Contest (CW, phone, digital)

November 4 -- EACW Meeting (CW)

November 4 -- SKCC Sprint Europe (CW)

**November 6 - 8 -- [ARRL November Sweepstakes \(CW\)](#)**

Nov 6-8 . . . . . [ARRL November Sweepstakes](#) CW

Nov 9 . . . . . BARC Meeting

Nov 20 - 22 . . . . . [ARRL November Sweepstakes](#) Phone

**Nov 13 . . . . . [Radio Club of America \(RCA\) Transatlantic QSO Party](#), 1200 UTC on November 13 to 0400 UTC on November 14, 2021 (16 hours total).**

Dec 3 . . . . . [ARRL 160-Meter Contest](#)

Dec 14 . . . . . \* [BARC Meeting and Christmas Party](#) \*

Dec 1—26 . . . . . **Special Event GB1002ZE**

**2022 Starts Here**

Jan 11 . . . . . BARC Meeting

Feb 8 . . . . . BARC Meeting

**\*\* Feb 19-20 2022 . . . . . VOA Anniversary Event "W4A" [BARC Club Event](#) \*\***

March 8 . . . . . BARC Meeting

**Regular Meeting** - 2nd Tuesday @ 7:00 PM Live-Zoom

**BARC Emergency Communication Workgroup** -

3rd Tuesday @ 7pm ZOOM

**Board Meeting** - Last Tuesday @ 7:00 PM ZOOM

Contest Calendar: All the rules:

<https://www.contestcalendar.com/weeklycont.php>

Upcoming ARRL Section, State, and Division Conventions:

November 6 - 7 -- [ARRL Georgia State Convention](#) (Stone Mountain Hamfest), Lawrenceville, Georgia

November 13 -- [ARRL Wisconsin State Convention](#) (Wisconsin ARES/RACES Conference) -- Online

November 13 - 14 -- [ARRL Central Division Convention](#) (Fort Wayne Hamfest & Computer Expo), Fort Wayne, Indiana

December 10 - 11 -- [ARRL West Central Florida Section Convention](#) (Tampa Bay Hamfest), Plant City, Florida

Find conventions and hamfests [in your area](#).

Check the calendar of canceled events on the ARRL website.

Other events:

BARC 2 METER NET - MONDAY NIGHTS AT 8:00 PM - 147.09 W4GDF REPEATER - 131.8 Tone  
Down East Hospital Net - 2nd Tuesday at noon - Greenville 444.725 MHz, 91.5 tone N4HAJ  
BRIGHTLEAF AMATEUR RADIO CLUB STATIONS

**W I V O A - W 4 A M C - W 4 U H S**