

Ham Chatter



Volume 60 Issue 4

An Official BARC, W4AMC, and PARC Publication

April 2026

Editor, Mark, KG4GVJ

Email: hamchatter@w4amc.com

Ham needing help Sale, page 2

April 10, 11, and 12, Frontier Fellowship.

An event geared toward the homesteading types. We will staff a table / trailer with information about radio communication capabilities, primarily ham, but be open to talking about GMRS, CB, etc. This is a multi day event and we are looking for multiple volunteers for each shift. See the attached Sign Up Genius. We need to know by March 25th to get you on the list for entry to the event. Let Beth know if you have any

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D49AFA92BA1F4CE9-62747744-frontier>

April 4, RARSfest.

I'm still determining whether I can go, I'd like to get a table and try to sell some equipment that was donated, anyone want to help out? It might mean you would have to set it up.

BARC April 14, 6:30pm in person.
All members, families and guests are invited to attend.

Oakwood School, 4000 MacGregor Downs Road. Greenville, NC 27834 .
Walk down right side of building to room we are meeting at.

PARC April 10, 7:00

Ham Radio Open House in April

It's the Year of the Club, and the second annual ARRL Ham Radio Open House event in April offers a chance to show off your club's high-tech gear and skills to your community! The event is built around World Amateur Radio Day on Saturday, April 18, but your open house may be scheduled at any point in the month.

BARC Board Meeting - April 28, 2026. ZOOM



HAM NEEDING HELP SALE

3-13-2026

Hello Ham Friends,

A local (Washington) ham asked me to send out this email as he needs some assistance due to a personal loss.

If you are interested in purchasing anything to help, please contact him for prices and other details.

Thank You All and 73

Gary Faust, NG9T

Gary:

I am going through some hard times, as my wife and half my income died with her.

I want to sell the following used HAM radio gear. an inflated price for them, just low price would be OK with me. Maybe you know someone that might be interested in buying.

Kenwood HF Transceiver TS-950S

Kenwood Station Monitor SM-230

Kenwood Speaker BP-950

MFJ #4035 MV, Adjustable Regulated DC Power Supply

MFJ-874 Peak Reading SWR/watt meter

MFJ VersaTuner # MFJ-989C

MFJ Artificial Ground # MFJ-931

A low to moderate bid on this equipment would be OK. Its not give-away PRICE, but close to it would be OK. Hard times Gary, hard times.

Just going through hard times Gary. I am going to have to move to a more inexpensive place now - without my wife's income , now that she died a week ago, forces me to move out to something less expensive to rent.

I've got a lot of furniture to sell too. Some of it is pretty good stuff. Living room, bedroom, and dining room stuff.

I am also looking for someone that has a room for rent in his house. Maybe I can find someone to share his house with.

Please forward this email to any HAM that might be interested. That would help.

My address:

Jim Pierpoint W4CAD

245 Singleton Rd

Washington, NC 27889

phone: 919-710-6795

email: PierpointJim@gmail.com

PS - I am located on the East side of Washington, not too far from the high school, but out in the country.

PARC and BARC

[Gary NG9T Past President and Co-Coordinator](#) and [Beth KN4FZB Past President and Co-Coordinator](#)

Tailgate Swap Meet and Cookout, May 9, 2026. 9:00 am-2:00 pm. Lunch at Noon!
Please sign up for dish to pass around.

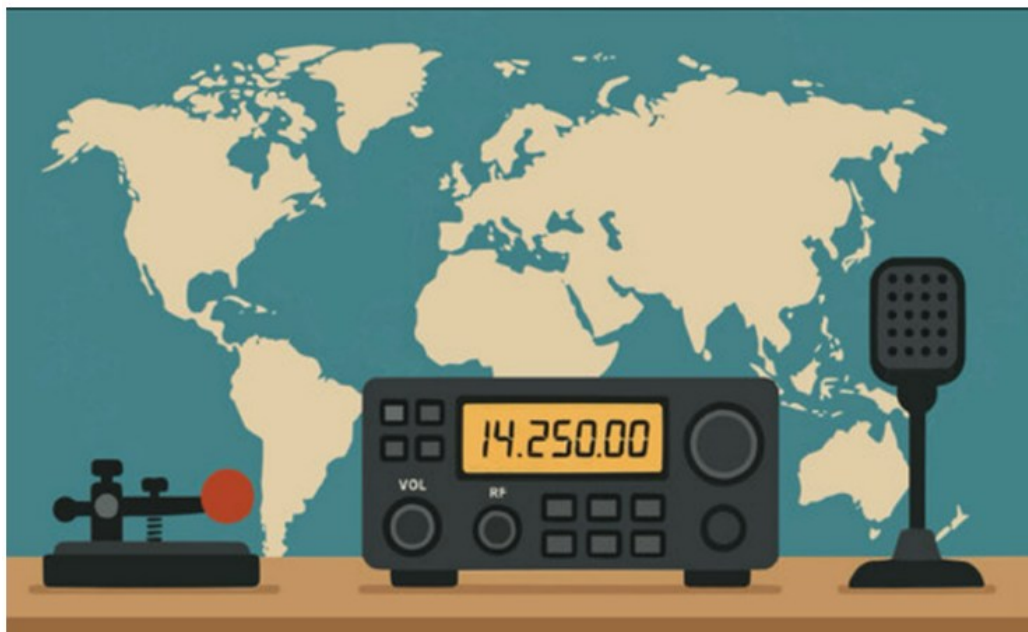
The annual Pamlico Amateur Radio Club and Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club sponsored Cookout and Tailgate Sale is Saturday May 9th. The tailgate sale starts at 9am and lunch will be at noon. We will be supplying grilled chicken, burgers and hotdogs. We ask that you bring a side dish if you can. On the attached flyer is a QR code that will take you to a page where you can sign up for food so that we have a nice selection.



There is no charge for tailgate or lunch as always, this is our yearly event to socialize with all the hams in Eastern NC. All hams are invited.



Clark Necks VFD #2
3797 Wharton Station Rd in Washington



FREE ON-LINE AMATEUR RADIO OPERATING CLASS

A free, weekly, 3-hour Amateur Radio Operating Class on Zoom will begin on Thursday April 2 and run through June 18. Sessions will be 2 to 3 hours long beginning at 6:30 PM. EAST-ERN time. Typically, two topics are covered per evening. The presenters will be folks very experienced in the various subjects.

A detailed syllabus will be published before the classes begin. Attend them all, or any that you like, but you must register for the classes. To receive registration information, contact [Rol Anders, K3RA](mailto:roland.anders@comcast.net), at roland.anders@comcast.net.

Subjects will include:

All About Operating--A general Introduction
Amateur Radio Organizations—Local to International
Ham Radio Operating Awards
DXing-History and Tips from the Experts
QSLing-How to get that needed confirmation for DXCC or WAS
VHF/UHF Weak Signal Work and “Roving”
Image Operating—Slow Scan and Fast Scan TV
Remote Station control over internet
Learning CW in the no-code era
Digital Modes—From RTTY to FT8 and beyond
Contesting—How to get started, tips for the beginner and intermediated contester
Logging Software—What’s available, how to use
Propagation—A general intro to HF Propagation with emphasis on the declining phase of the current solar cycle
Amateur Satellites—How to get started
Portable (backpacking) operation and POTA—Tips from an expert
Setting Up a Modern (or not so modern) HF Station
Lightning Protection and Grounding
Traffic Handling
Public Service, Emergency Communications

73,
Rol Anders, K3RA

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.

Practice taking the test on line with <https://www.hamradiolicenseexam.com>.
www.hamradioPrep.com
HamStudy.org

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 :

04-16	KJ4DMV	Geraldine
04-18	WB4PMQ	Macon
04-28	K4EEP	Reggie
05-09	KD4NGW	Jack
05-20	W3LPR	Louis
05-26	N4PIR	Gary

Please let me know of any additions or corrections. If yours is missing, I don't have it! Email

hamchatter@w4amc.com

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 this link for further information: <https://w4amc.com/get-your-license-ve/>

Gil Cartoons Courtesy of ARRL's 2021 Calendar(2020) and Gil, a Collection of Classic Cartoon from QST(1986-2007)

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

Well Wishes

Thoughts and Prayers go out to the following:

Condolences to the Family of Gary Ambert, AI4J, silent key

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

This can be of death announcements, sickness or prayers requested.

Presentation Ideas Needed

Please send ideas of new presentation topics and presenters to Email: info@w4amc.com

In This Issue

HAM HELP SALE	2
Presidents Corner - KN4FZB	6
Presidents Corner - W4HEX	9
Exam info	18
NC Section News	10
Yabba and other Clubs	19
On-Line Class	4
Hints and Hacks	20
US Band Plans (UPDATED)	22
ARES	8
PARC-BARC Swap and lunch	3
Special announcements	
Ham AD's	24
BARC & PARC Calendar of Events & Contest for month	26

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BARC's President's Corner, Beth KN4FZB



Hi Everyone, Happy April, Happy Easter. The warmer weather is moving in so we can get out and tweak antennas and maybe start some other outdoor activities. I know I'll be getting some plants going, attending to a vhf antenna, and getting a TV antenna set up too, in addition to the mundane yard tasks that come every year. Also, it's a good time to examine your preps for spring storms and the upcoming hurricane season. Something I haven't thought about much is wildfires, does anyone have any tips to help prepare for those? I'd love to hear them some-time.

Don't forget RARSFest April 4th and the PARC-BARC tailgate May 9th.

From the Editor: Okay folks, the storage trailer is in need of new tires and perhaps rims. Due to cost, this is expected to be brought up at the general meeting this April 14 for the Club to vote on. Expected cost with rims included is over \$400.

ALSO: BARC has a Tri-bander antenna for sale. Any interested contact BETH BEFORE this Friday. Otherwise it's going to RARSfest.

W1AW Schedule

PAC	MTN	CENT	EAST	UTC	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
6 AM	7 AM	8 AM	9 AM	1300		FAST CODE	SLOW CODE	FAST CODE	SLOW CODE
7 AM-12 ⁴⁵ PM	8 AM-1 ⁴⁵ PM	9 AM-2 ⁴⁵ PM	10 AM-3 ⁴⁵ PM	1400-1945	VISITING OPERATOR TIME				
1 PM	2 PM	3 PM	4 PM	2000	FAST CODE	SLOW CODE	FAST CODE	SLOW CODE	FAST CODE
2 PM	3 PM	4 PM	5 PM	2100	CODE BULLETIN				
3 PM	4 PM	5 PM	6 PM	2200	DIGITAL BULLETIN				
4 PM	5 PM	6 PM	7 PM	2300	SLOW CODE	FAST CODE	SLOW CODE	FAST CODE	SLOW CODE
5 PM	6 PM	7 PM	8 PM	0000	CODE BULLETIN				
6 PM	7 PM	8 PM	9 PM	0100	DIGITAL BULLETIN				
6 ⁴⁵ PM	7 ⁴⁵ PM	8 ⁴⁵ PM	9 ⁴⁵ PM	0145	VOICE BULLETIN				
7 PM	8 PM	9 PM	10 PM	0200	FAST CODE	SLOW CODE	FAST CODE	SLOW CODE	FAST CODE
8 PM	9 PM	10 PM	11 PM	0300	CODE BULLETIN				

W1AW's schedule is at the same local time throughout the year. From the second Sunday in March to the first Sunday in November, UTC = Eastern US time + 4 hours. For the rest of the year, UTC = Eastern US time + 5 hours.

♦ Morse code transmissions: Frequencies are 1.8025, 3.5815, 7.0475, 14.0475, 18.0775, 21.0675, 28.0675, 50.350, and 147.555 MHz.

Slow Code = practice sent at 5, 7½, 10, 13, and 15 WPM.

Fast Code = practice sent at 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 13, and 10 WPM.

Code bulletins are sent at 18 WPM.

Signal Strength

- 1--Faint signals, barely perceptible.
- 2--Very weak signals.
- 3--Weak signals.
- 4--Fair signals.
- 5--Fairly good signals.
- 6--Good signals.
- 7--Moderately strong signals.
- 8--Strong signals.
- 9--Extremely strong signals.

Figure 1 — The current definitions for the signal strength portion of RST reports from the ARRL website. See <https://arrl.org/quick-reference-operating-aids> for additional resources.

♦ W1AW Qualifying Runs are sent on the same frequencies as the Morse code transmissions. West Coast qualifying runs are transmitted by various West Coast stations on CW frequencies that are normally used by W1AW, in addition to 3590 kHz, at various times. Underline 1 minute of the highest speed you copied, certify that your copy was made without aid, and send it to ARRL for grading. Please include your name, call sign (if any), and complete mailing address. Fees: \$10 for a certificate, \$7.50 for endorsements.

♦ Digital transmissions: Frequencies are 3.5975, 7.095, 14.095, 18.1025, 21.095, 28.095, 50.350, and 147.555 MHz.

Bulletins are sent using 45.45-baud Baudot, PSK31 in BPSK mode, and MFSK16 on a daily revolving schedule.

Keplerian elements for many amateur satellites will be sent on the regular digital frequencies on Tuesdays and Fridays at 6:30 PM Eastern time using Baudot and PSK31.

♦ Voice transmissions: Frequencies are 1.855, 3.99, 7.29, 14.29, 18.16, 21.39, 28.59, 50.350, and 147.555 MHz. Voice transmissions on 7.290 MHz are in AM double sideband, full carrier.

♦ Notes: On Fridays, UTC, a DX bulletin replaces the regular bulletins. W1AW is open to visitors 10 AM to 3:45 PM Monday through Friday. FCC-licensed amateurs may operate the station during that time. Be sure to bring a reference copy of your current FCC amateur license. In a communication emergency, monitor W1AW for special bulletins as follows: voice on the hour, teleprinter at 15 minutes past the hour, and CW on the half hour.

W1AW code practice and CW/digital/phone bulletin transmission audio is also available real-time via the *EchoLink Conference Server W1AWBDCT*. The conference server runs concurrently with the regularly scheduled station transmissions. The W1AW Qualifying Run texts can also be copied via the EchoLink Conference Server.

During 2026, Headquarters and W1AW are closed on New Year's Day (January 1), Presidents Day (February 16), Memorial Day (May 25), Independence Day (July 3), Labor Day (September 7), Veterans Day (November 11), Thanksgiving and the following day (November 26 and 27), and Christmas (December 25).

For more information, visit us at www.arrl.org/w1aw

Future-Proofing ARES



Interoperability Skills Every ARES Operator Should Understand

Bob Famiglio, K3RF

During disasters, public safety and federal agencies, non-governmental organizations, and critical-infrastructure entities all operate communications systems within a national interoperability framework. At the center of that framework is the *National Interoperability Field Operations Guide (NIFOG)*.

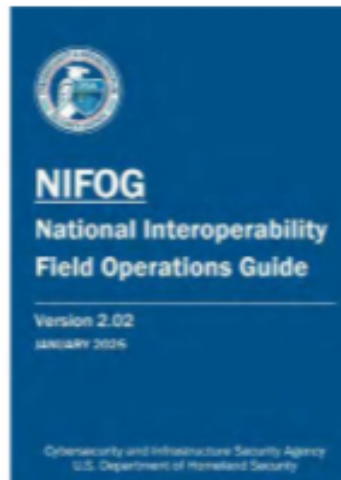
The *NIFOG* is published for responders, communications technicians, and radio operators, and it catalogs nationwide interoperability channels across HF, VHF, UHF, 700/800 MHz, federal bands, and other shared resources, outlining standardized procedures, naming conventions, channel priorities, and operational practices used in multi-agency incidents.

It's paramount that Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES®) operators are familiar with the *NIFOG* during multi-agency responses, particularly wide-area disasters. Understanding the guide helps hams see how agencies communicate, how interoperability is achieved, and where amateur radio fits into the national plan.

Why the *NIFOG* Matters

ARES volunteers are prohibited from transmitting on the *NIFOG* channels, and they can only program them into equipment as receive-only, unless specifically authorized, in writing, by the appropriate authority having jurisdiction. Even so, knowing the structure of the interoperability plans allows trained amateur radio operators to integrate more effectively with served agencies when assistance is requested and additional equipment is offered to trained volunteers to use alongside ham equipment.

In any disaster, amateur radio is only one tool in a much larger communications toolbox. If multiple agencies are involved, responders turn to the interoper-



The *NIFOG* outlines the framework for national interoperability.

ability channels defined in the *NIFOG* to find common frequencies to use. This knowledge can transform an ARES volunteer from "someone with a radio" to "a communicator who better understands the operational environment."

Our role is to supplement public safety and other emergency response groups (when requested) and support information flow. Knowledge of the *NIFOG* helps volunteers understand when amateur radio is likely to be used, what gaps it can fill, and how to coordinate effectively with agency communications units.

ARES volunteers who understand the *NIFOG* procedures can integrate more

smoothly into an incident command system (ICS) structure. They can assist with logging, message relay, and documentation in ways that align with agency expectations. They can also communicate more effectively with a communications leader and technician personnel, which are defined ICS roles that rely heavily on the *NIFOG* standards.

ARES groups that incorporate *NIFOG* awareness into their training produce operators who are better prepared, more confident, and more valuable to served agencies. Even a basic understanding of the national interoperability plan elevates an operator's ability to contribute meaningfully during a disaster.

More Guide Information

ARRL's contact information and basic amateur radio frequency listings are also found in the *NIFOG*. Free copies of the latest (January 2025) guide are available for download from www.cisa.gov, among other public safety, federal agency, non-governmental organization, and critical-infrastructure entity websites. Printed and bound copies are also widely available. Put a copy with your go-kit!

PARC President's Corner, David W4HEX



Reserved for future communications for the Club

PARC Club Meetings:

Meets on the second Thursday of each month at :

- * Zion Episcopal Church
- * 7322 US 264 East
- * Washington, NC 27889
- 7:00 PM start time

Nets:

2m Net ever Thursday at 8:00pm (Except 2nd Thursday meeting night)
Washington (Chocowinity) repeater 147.255mhz PL 131.8
80m Net every Tuesday at 7:00pm
3850 SSB (or close by if freq in use)

Breakfast every Wednesday at:

Shep's Grill
129 N. Market St
Washington, NC 27889
Open to all Hams and interested parties.
8:00 - 8:30 Start

VE Sessions: Odd numbered month (Jan, Mar, May, July, Oct, and Nov) on 2nd Saturday at 9:30. No walk-ins, please reserve a spot. **Next session May 9, 2026**

Contact Tom Kottke Kottketom@gmail.com or INFO@PARC.Com

Location:

Beaufort County EOC
1420 Highland Ave
Washington NC 27889

Salvation Army Disaster Training Courses

<https://learn.salvationarmyusa.org/EDS/faith-and-community-based-organizations>

No-cost virtual training series

NC Section News

July 29, 2024

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: PLEASE DISTRIBUTE THIS NEWSLETTER TO MEMBERS OF YOUR CLUB AND/OR GROUP. THE ARRL EMAIL SYSTEM WAS HACKED AND WILL NOT BE OPERATIONAL UNTIL 2025. COPIES OF PREVIOUS NC SECTION NEWSLETTERS, AS WELL AS ALL FUTURE NEWSLETTERS, CAN BE FOUND AT <https://www.ncarrl.org>

GREETINGS FROM THE HIGH COUNTRY! March 1, 2026

Mark Twain is quoted as having said, "Everyone talks about the weather but no one does anything about it."

Mild, Spring-like weather may be here for a few days but how long will it stay?

Despite ice and some snow last week, North Carolina remains unusually dry. Late on Sunday afternoon, the temperature reached 62 degrees, Three weeks ago we experienced a low temperature of -2 degrees.

The most recent drought report that is issued each Thursday shows that the entire area of North Carolina is classified as being very dry. Most of the state is in a Severe Drought except for two small portions of North Carolina which are shown to be in an Extreme Drought (which is more severe than the Severe Drought Category). The maps can be found at www.ncdrought.org.

SECTION MANAGER ELECTION

On Tuesday afternoon earlier this week, ARRL Staff and an independent accounting firm counted the ballots that members cast for the NC Section Manager who will serve for a term that will begin on April 1 2026 and end on June 30, 2028.

I want to express my thanks for the confidence you have placed in me during the election and for the opportunity you have given me to be the Section Manager for the past six years.. I am very grateful that 72% of membership who voted indicated their collective satisfaction with my leadership as Section Manager. Almost 1000 members mailed in ballots in the election that involved two candidates for the Section Manager post for the next two years. Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **CHARLOTTE HAMFEST**, sponsored by the Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society, held at the Cabarrus Arena and Event Center (4751 Highway 49 N Concord NC) on Friday and Saturday (March 6 and 7). Info at <http://charlottehamfest.org>.
- **RARSFEST**, sponsored by the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, held in the Jim Graham Building at the North Carolina State Fairgrounds on Saturday (April 4). Info at <http://www.rarsfest.org>.

- If you plan to attend either of these hamfests, stop by the ARRL table and say hello. Pick up an ARRL Band Plan card or other ARRL literature. **Be sure to tell me if there is something I can do to help with a ham radio problem that you or your club are facing.**

YEAR OF THE CLUB

ARRL has designated 2026 as the Year of the Club and created a series of special activities to generate considerable on-the-air activity that includes:

1. Each state has been assigned two one week periods (Spring and Fall) during which clubs and similar groups will be assigned operating periods and modes so that operators across the USA can make contacts for a special Worked All States-250 award (even if an operator has already earned the traditional Worked All States award).
2. Recognition of excellence in club newsletters that re successful in informing interested persons about the fun involved in ham radio and offering information about mentoring opportunities,
3. Commendation to clubs for excellent newsletters containing information about club activities.
4. Opportunities for clubs to receive a share of ARRL dues when the club processes applications for new and renewing ARRL members.
5. Opportunities for clubs to submit photos of club activities for potential inclusion in QST and the ARRL webpage.

There are unique opportunities to showcase you club!!

North Carolina has two weeks during which clubs and similar groups can operate as W1AW/4. The weeks are April 1 and September 2. Paul Raische (N1XI) has graciously volunteered to be the Coordinator for the On the Air activities for North Carolina which will involve various modes, frequencies and assigned time slots.

If your club wishes to operate s W1W/4 during a portion of North Carolina's time slots please contact Paul at his special Year of the Club address (was250nc@gmail.com).

IF YOU WISH TO OBTAIN INFORMTION ABOUT ITEMS 2-5 (above) please refer to the instructions found t www.arrl.org/year-of-the-club.

RECENT FCC ACTIONS

- Recent rule change that requires licenses to update their address information in the FRN database whenever your USPS mail address or email address changes. The FCC rule requires that the update be entered in the FCC database with ten days of such a change. Info can be found at <http://arrl.org/news/new-60-meter-frequencies-available-as-of-february-13>
- Recent rule change that provides a small addition of low power operation on 60 meters. Info at <http://arrl.org/news/fcc-requires-that-frn-contact-information-be-updated-within-ten-days-of-a-change>

CLOSING COMMENT

This will be an uncharacteristically brief Section Newsletter. There is much to do to get ready for the Charlotte

hamfest plus as the weather here improves there is backlog of outdoor antenna work to be tended to.

Best wishes,

Marv, W4NC
NC SECTION MANGER
BOONE

MARCH 14 2026

GREETINGS FROM THE HIGH COUNTRY

There sure has been a time of significant variations in the weather. In the past three weeks we have had a low of -2 (chill factor -15), and over the past weekend the high temperature got up as high up to 65. Thursday morning when I looked out on the deck, it was covered with snow supplemented by freezing rain.. The temp this morning was 28 and then it warmed up enough to melt the snow.

On this past Friday and Saturday, I was at the Charlotte Hamfest (which is held at the Cabarrus Arena and Event Center). Attendance was good and a significant number of persons stopped by at the ARRL table to say hello. Roanoke Director Jim Boehner, Vice Director Bill Morine and I held an ARRL forum, took questions and distributed ARRL literature. It was good to make new acquaintances and to see old friends.

THANK YOU!

At the end of March, I will have served as the NC Section Manager for six years. North Carolina ARRL members cast their ballots and have given me another two-year term as Section Manager. Due to a recent ARRL bylaw change, the ending date for Section Manager Terms is June 30, 2028.

I appreciate the opportunities you have given me to help on problems, to distribute information to hams about upcoming activities and events and, when it is feasible, to visit your clubs, hamfests and Field Day sites.

Thank you for the confidence you have shown in my ability to keep amateur radio interesting, exciting and supportive of emergency agencies.

ARRL MATTERS

PASS THE BILL

ARRL continues to urge the amateur radio community to follow through and do their part in urging Congress to pass legislation to overrule property-owner and home-owner association rules that prohibit installation of ham radio antennas within subdivisions.

If you haven't already participated in the PASS THE BILL campaign, you can go to the ARRL webpage for instructions on how to send a letter to your Member of the House and your US Senator. Go to <https://www.arrl.org/current-legislation>.

Because this is a federal election year (all US House members and 1/3 of the Senators are up for election), Congress members will be going home to campaign for re-election causing a decreased likelihood of Congress getting everything done which requires their action.

So, do not wait on indicating your support for the House and Senate bills backed by the ARRL. Follow the instruction is the link posted above and add your name to the letters going to your particular Representative and both your Senators. PASS THE BILL!

SECTION TRAFFIC MANAGER REPORT

Each month, Dave Price (W4DNA) prepares a report that documents the traffic handled by the various nets that are part of the National Traffic System and operate within North Carolina. Thanks go out to Dave for his work in keeping the NTS functioning in North Carolina and thanks are also in order for the work of the various Net Managers and individual traffic handled but the archived reports contain more detailed information because the ARRL email system does not easily handle .txt files or tables.

W4DNA - NC Section Net Report - FEBRUARY 2026							
NET	NMGR	QNI	LISTED	PASSED	TIME	SESSIONS	TFC %
SECTION NETS							
CN	AA4MP	345	95	95	561	56	100.00%
CSN	KI4KZS						#DIV/0!
NCEN	WK4WC	379	57	57	311	28	100.00%
NCMN	W3OJO	275	148	145	506	28	97.97%
THEN	N3TLV	422	0	0	489	28	N/A
LOCAL TRAFFIC NETS							
CWTN	KJ4JWC	326	67	67	406	28	100.00%
ENCTN	W4DNA	230	7	7	229	24	100.00%
PCTN	W4TT0	138	47	47	216	28	100.00%
C-MNN	KI4FAQ	419	0	0	374	28	N/A
TOTAL		2534	421	418	3092	248	99.29%
NOTE: C-MNN = Metrolina (Charlotte-Mecklenburg) Nightly Net							

YEAR OF THE CLUB – OPERATING AS W1AW/P4 DURING 2026

As part of ARRL’s celebration of the 250th Anniversary of our country and to generate increased activity on the bands, ARRL has created a special Worked All States-250 Award which will be awarded to operators who make contact with stations in all 50 states during 2026.

Each state has been assigned two one week periods when stations in a particular state may be given permission to operate with the special callsign W1AW portable 4. North Carolina has been assigned operation beginning at 0000 UTC on a Wednesday, and ending at 2359 UTC on the following Tuesday. The two weeks assigned to North Carolina begin on April 1 as well as September 2.

Paul Raiche (N1XI) who lives in Ashe County has volunteered to be the NC Coordinator for the WAS-250 operation and he can approve use of W1AW/4 callsign. He has created a special email address for contacting him concerning operating during North Carolina’s two weeks. He requests that you contact him at was250nc@gmail.com concerning available times, modes, and bands for operation.

Please remember that ARRL has established particular rules for this year-long activity. You may request times, modes and bands by contacting Paul Raiche but the approval of assignment are his responsibility and will be tracked in spreadsheet as to who has been assigned times to operate as W1AW/P4.

Rules for this operation have been set by ARRL and were not written by me or other NC operators.

- For example, a posting from ARRL stated “How many stations can be on at one time? Answer:

Three (3) mode stations can be on every band (except 60 meters) at the same time. Example: For activations on say the 160, 80, 40, 30, 20, 17, 15, 12, 10 and 6 meter bands – that is 10 bands X 3 modes = 30 stations can be on using the same W1AW/# call from your state at the same time. Adding 2m, plus 1.25m, 70cm, 33cm and 23cm, that's 5 more bands x 3 modes = 15 bands stations – then add that to your first 30 band mode stations to get a total of 45 active stations on the air at the same time.”

- Only ARRL HQ staff at W1AW staff may add data to your log and ADI file for uploads to LOTW for WAS-250 contacts..
- Operators who have previously earned WAS are eligible to earn WAS-250.
- There will be an on-the-air station operating from the Cleveland County Fairgrounds during both days of the Shelby Hamfest

BENEFITS TO YOU COMING FROM ARRL MEMBERSHIP

During the Charlotte Hamfest, I was asked what benefits come to hams and clubs by being a member for a club being affiliated with the ARRL. It did not take but a few seconds to answer these questions since this is part and parcel of what a Section Manager deals with as part of the job. The benefits are many and include:

- ARRL lobbying in Washington to protect amateur radio spectrum from efforts by other communications groups to have spectrum reallocated away from amateur use.
- ARRL works with international regulatory groups so that other countries do not allocate spectrum in ways that would cause harmful interference to amateur use.
- ARRL educational activities through publications, including books as well as technical magazines, as well as in-person educational activities about emerging technologies.
- ARRL services to amateur radio operators which include equipment and liability insurance.
- ARRL lab that provides unbiased evaluation of ham equipment to assure their proper technical operation.
- Support to local and state emergency management agencies by participating in ARES and Auxcomm activities through partnerships with FEMA, Red Cross and other groups.
- Engaging in activities to increase interest levels by young people in electronics, robotics, telecommunications, satellites and other technologies through programs that involve Scouts, school clubs and urging clubs to mentor young people about ham radio.
- Sharing revenues from ARRL dues when clubs partner with ARRL by signing up new members and helping existing members to renew their ARRL membership.
- ARRL's recent actions to provide financial support when increasing costs lead clubs seriously consider ending their support to local hamfests.
- ARRL offers hams technical support with its expertise by way of the Volunteer Monitor program to identify malicious interference, non-ham intruders on ham bands and by working with the FCC to seek enforcement actions against illegal operations.

OTHER MATTERS

HELP WANTED

ARRL's Field Organization involves volunteers in each of the 71 Section in the United States. The volunteers assist the Section Manager with a variety of tasks. These volunteer positions are enumerated at <https://www.arrl.org/field-organization> . I am looking for a couple of people to become involved in the operation of the North Carolina Section.

Read the job description for Technical Coordinator and for the Affiliated Club Coordinator. If the job description matches your skills and interests, please contact me so we can discuss an appointment.

UPCOMING AMATEUR RADIO EVENTS

- RARSFES, 4/4/26, sponsored by the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society and held at the Jim Graham Building on the State Fairgrounds in Raleigh. Indoor flea market, forums, license exams, dealers selling new equipment and parts. Information at <https://www.rarsfest.org/>
- FORSYTH CLUB SWAPFEST, 04/25/2026, held at the Robinhood Road Baptist Church, 5422 Robinhood Road, Winston-Salem. Information at <https://w4nc.com/hamfest/>.
- WAYNE COUNTY UNFEST, 05/02/2026, sponsored by the Wayne County Amateur Radio Association, Goldsboro, NC. Information at <https://k4cyp.com/news/2026-chris-keen-memorial-unfest/>.
- CARY SWAPFEST 07/18/2026 - 53rd Annual Cary Mid-Summer Swapfest, sponsored by the Cary Amateur Radio Club and held at Ritter Park, 301 W. Lochmere Drive, Cary.
- WSCARS HAMFES, 07/25/2026. Sponsored by the Western Carolina Amateur Radio Society held at the Smokey Mountain Event Center, 758 Crabtree Road, Waynesville. Information at <https://wcars-club.org/hamfest-annual/docs/hfnotice.pdf>.
- CAPE FEAR HAMFEST, August 8, sponsored by the Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society, held at the Cumberland County Shrine Club, 7040 Ramsey Street, Fayetteville. Information available soon.
- SHELBY HAMFEST 09/04/2026 - 09/05/2026, sponsored by the Shelby Amateur Radio Club, held at the Cleveland County Fairgrounds. Large outdoor flea market, indoor and outdoor space for dealers, forums, license exams, food. Information at <https://shelbyhamfest.org/>.
- DAYTON HAMVENTION

Organized by the Dayton Amateur Radio Association and held on May 15, 16 and 17 at the Greene County Fairgrounds and Expo Center near Xenia, Ohio. It is the largest hamfest in North America and it fills several buildings plus a large outdoor flea market. You will see the newest equipment from ICOM, Yaesu, Kenwood, Flex and peripherals such as power supplies, modems, antennas, towers and weather stations plus you can talk to reps from international ham organizations and software producers. You can choose from simultaneous forums on various topics, upgrade your license and take the opportunity to meet ARRL officials, Board members and much of the HQ staff. In the flea market area, you will walk past several hundred tents and look at the stuff being sold by tailgaters that will include used commercial equipment, military surplus items and lots of antennas, rotors, cables, connectors and similar items.

The old saying is that if you can't find at Dayton what you are looking for, then you probably will not find it at any other hamfest. Plus there will be a variety of food choices!

Info can be found at <https://hamvention.org/>. Every ham needs to go to Dayton at least once in their life and while there you should go over to the nearby Air Force Museum at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base and look at the Presidential Aircraft, the evolution of rocketry and the history of flight at Wright-Patterson.

FIELD DAY PLANNING

It is not too early to begin planning for Field Day which is held annually on the last full weekend in June. Information can be found at <https://www.arrl.org/field-day> . This year the dates will be June 27-28.

Field Day gives hams an opportunity to get out in a park, using temporary antennas and solar, wind or generator power. Some groups use this as an opportunity to refresh their skills in emergency operations, others are avid contesters and still others just operate for a few hours and enjoy the comradery with fellow hams.

Information about rules, scoring points, and registering your Field Day site can be found at <https://www.arrl.org/field-day> .

Once the Field Day locator site is posted, visitors who want to learn about ham radio can find your club's Field Day operation. To the extent possible (because North Carolina is a very large state) your Roanoke Director and Vice Director, as well as the NC Section Manager and other Section personnel will be stopping at many Field Day sites.

Each year I choose an area of the state and try to visit as many clubs as possible. In years past, I have made it to the far southwestern part of North Carolina, another year I focused my travels to the High Country and Foothills. Still another year I made it to clubs in the Piedmont and I have gotten down to SE North Carolina, even visiting Wilmington and Calabash.

Part of your ARRL dues makes it possible to cover the cost of gas and lodging for Field Day visits. While serving as Section Manager I traveled over 4000 miles during several previous Field Day weekends.

SILENT KEYS

When I learn of Silent Keys through a club newsletters or when someone sends a note that a friend, club member or family member has died I notify ARRL and request that the name and callsign of the ham be listed on the Silent Key page in QST. Feel free to let me know about Silent Keys so that I can make sure he or she is listed in QST.

CLOSING COMMENT

The Section Manager job involves tasks that cumulatively take about two days each week, including producing newsletters, responding to emails and phone calls, participating in ARRL zoom meetings, sending in Silent Key reports, visiting (by virtual or in-person) clubs and, occasionally, getting on the air to enjoy ham radio and keeping up to date with emerging issues. It is a privilege to be part of the ham radio community and to be doing my part to keep ham radio interesting and alive. There are approxi-

mately 23,000 licensed hams in North Carolina and approximately 4,000 ARRL members who live in North Carolina.

Best wishes to each of you.

Marv Hoffman, WA4NC
NC Section Manager
Boone
828 964 6626

Some EXAM TESTING Locations

[NBARC] Ham Radio (VE) License Testing:

The [NBARC] New Bern Amateur Radio Club sponsors a (VE) Ham Radio License Testing Exam on the 3rd Saturday of EVEN NUMBERED MONTHS, hours are 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM. So, the next exam is scheduled for Saturday, June 21, 2025.

Exam times & location are: 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Rheem's Volunteer Fire Dept.
5860 Hwy 17 South
New Bern, NC 28562
Contact: Jim Scheer, W4NLD Ph: (252) 876-3733

As you face the building, enter from the left side.

Exam fees are \$15.00 but, it might go up in the future, so don't be surprised if the fee changes. Bring cash, or make personal checks or money orders out to; ARRL/VEC.

To obtain an Amateur Radio License and Call sign, you must first obtain a Federal Communication Commission (FCC) Registration Number (FRN).

Go to the FCC.GOV Website -

Select - FCC Commissions Registration System (CORES)

Select - UPDATED CORES

Select - LOGIN; and provide a username and password.

Follow the instructions to obtain an FRN.

After you have obtained your FRN, search the internet for NCVEC QUICK-FORM-605-APPLICATION. This will take you to the AMATEUR RADIO RELAY LEAGUE (ARRL) website with the interactive form NCVEC605. Fill out SECTION 1. Be sure to enter your FRN in the appropriate block, print the form, and bring it to the test session.

Looking forward to meeting you at the exam session.





Hi Folks,

Well, here we are in another month. I hope all has been well with you all I've been my normal, forgetful self. Thought it was Monday night on Sunday and wondered about the Net tones not coming on. Took a bit for me to remember what day it was. I was out of town for a few days last week and come home to cats who act like I was gone for ever and starts talking about it occasionally. The dog was with us, but she's been hanging around me more when I'm home.

Not much radio been done and looking forward to the March Governing board meeting. Going by some videos of Hawaii lately, our weather is great right now. I was lucky when I live on Oahu as a kid, not to see as much rain as they have been seeing. Sure, had a lot of water come down from behind our house when it rained hard, but not this bad. The Hams must be plenty busy at this time.

Interested in the Ham Chatter?

If your not receiving *Ham Chatter* email notices and would like to receive them, please send an email to Hamchatter@w4amc.com so we can get your email address and put you on our list. You may miss some important BARC or PARC notices.—*KG4GVJ*

Be a Net Control

Volunteer to help with the weekly net for BARC or other Nets. All are welcomed. It's a great practice for emergency nets or events. A script is available to read off of to help in the progress on the web site.

PUBLIC SERVICE? 2026 events soon.

Website for NC hams who are interested in public service, Check it out at <https://hpsnc.org/>.

[NBARC] Club Facebook Pages:

Our [NBARC] event photos are posted on BOTH our Public AND Private Facebook Club Pages for your viewing pleasure. You can view the photos and even right-click and save them to your computer. There are over 80+ Photos that we took just during our 2022 Summer Field Day alone for you to enjoy! Facebook makes it easy for anyone to share their photos, comments, and Buy-N-Sale items, and post interesting articles. Feel free to use it and Join our Private group as well. The Public page is open to the general public.

<https://www.facebook.com/NewBernARC> is our [NBARC] Public (Open to anyone) Facebook Page.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/nbarc.org> is our [NBARC] Private (Must Join To View) Facebook Page.

<https://www.facebook.com/NewBernARC> is our [NBARC] Public (Open to anyone) Facebook Page.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/nbarc.org> is our [NBARC] Private (Must Join To View) Facebook Page.



Emergency power supply running a VHF transceiver.

“...you can also use them to jump-start your car if the battery goes dead.”

HINT**Emergency Power Solution**

I was looking for an emergency power supply for my backup 2-meter radio that I keep in my shack or take portable. I needed something that could go anywhere, that would stay charged and have enough power to keep me on the air for a good length of time if there were a power failure.

I found that a common portable automobile jumper battery works well, and as an added feature they have a built-in battery character and will work while the charger is on, making them a nice regular power supply.

There are many different brands, and some come with built-in 120 V ac outlets. You can buy these batteries at almost any auto supply or big-box store, and you can also use them to jump-start your car if the battery goes dead.

The battery, my 2-meter radio, and an extra magnetic-mount antenna for 2 meters make up my go-anywhere radio station when I have to stay connected in case of an emergency. I have most of the local 2-meter repeaters programmed into the radio, so it's ready to go.

Stewart Nelson, KD5LBE

The Radio Amateur's Code

THE RADIO AMATEUR IS:

CONSIDERATE...

He/She never knowingly operates in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

LOYAL...

He/She offers loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local clubs, the IARU Radio Society in his/her country, through which Amateur Radio in his/her country is represented nationally and internationally.

PROGRESSIVE...

He/She keeps his/her station up to date.
It is well-built and efficient.
His/Her operating practice is above reproach.

FRIENDLY...

He/She operates slowly and patiently when requested; offers friendly advice and counsel to beginners; kind assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interests of others.

These are the marks of the amateur spirit.

BALANCED...

Radio is a hobby, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school, or community.

PATRIOTIC...

His/Her station and skills are always ready for service to country and community.

US Amateur Radio Bands

Operator license classes: **E** = Amateur Extra **A** = Advanced **G** = General **T** = Technician **N** = Novice
 CW operation is permitted throughout all amateur bands. Except as noted, all frequencies are in megahertz (MHz).

■ = RTTY, data, phone, image
 ■ = USB phone, RTTY, data and CW
 ■ = RTTY and data
 ■ = phone and image
■ = SSB phone
 = CW only

LF – Low Frequency band

2200 Meters (135 kHz) E,A,G
 1 W EIRP maximum



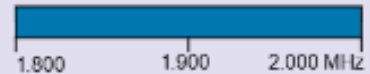
Amateurs wishing to operate on 2200 or 630 meters must first register with the Utilities Technology Council online at <https://utc.org/plc-database-amateur-notification-process/>. You need only register once for each band.

MF – Medium Frequency bands

630 Meters (472 kHz) E,A,G
 5 W EIRP max, except in Alaska within 496 miles of Russia where the limit is 1 W EIRP

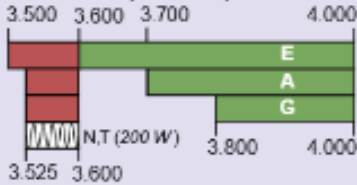


160 Meters (1.8 MHz) E,A,G

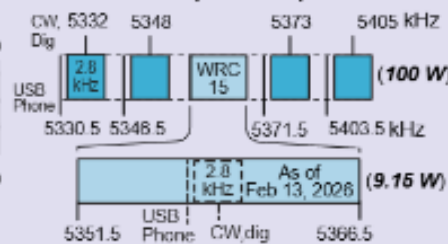


HF – High Frequency bands

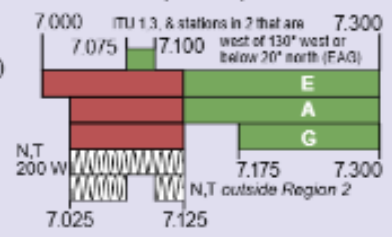
80 Meters (3.5 MHz) E,A,G,T,N



60 Meters (5.3 MHz) E,A,G



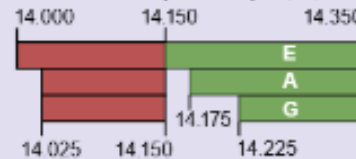
40 Meters (7 MHz) E,A,G,T,N



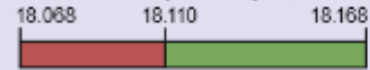
30 Meters (10.1 MHz) E,A,G



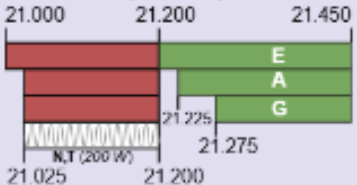
20 Meters (14 MHz) E,A,G



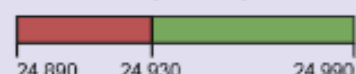
17 Meters (18 MHz) E,A,G



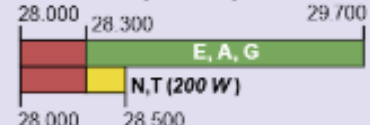
15 Meters (21 MHz) E,A,G,T,N



12 Meters (24 MHz) E,A,G

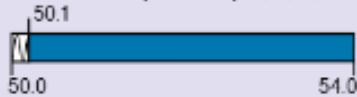


10 Meters (28 MHz) E,A,G,T,N



VHF – Very High Frequency bands

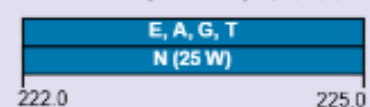
6 Meters (50 MHz) E,A,G,T



2 Meters (144 MHz) E,A,G,T



1.25 Meters (222 MHz) E,A,G,T,N



UHF – Ultra High Frequency bands

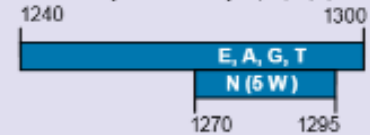
70 cm (420 MHz) E,A,G,T



33 cm (902 MHz) E,A,G,T



23 cm (1240 MHz) E,A,G,T,N



SHF&EHF – Super and Extremely High Frequency bands

All licensees except Novices are authorized all modes on the following frequencies:

2300-2310 MHz 3300-3450 MHz 10.0-10.5 GHz 47.0-47.2 GHz 122.25-123.0 GHz 241-250 GHz
 2390-2450 MHz 5650-5925 MHz 24.0-24.25 GHz 76.0-81.0 GHz 134-141 GHz All above 275 GHz

See www.arrl.org/band-plan for detailed band plans.

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 OTAbands rev. 1/16/2026

BARC Website, some Blog page Titles

[Hex Beam in the Air!](#)

Even more than this on the website.

Feel free to view, comment and add.

E. N. C. Repeater Inc.

Eastern North Carolina Repeater Association

W4NBR Repeater 146.685 PL 88.5

Individual Membership (Annual Dues of \$15.00), Family Membership – All licensed individuals domiciled at same the address (Annual Dues of \$15.00)

Dues (cash or check made payable to E.N.C. Repeater Inc.) to any Club Officer, or mail to David Burt, 1425 Harris Ct., Cary, NC 27511 or email to enc@inner360.com

U.S. KFF Park-County Database Listing For World Wide Flora & Fauna (WWFF)

<https://countyhunter.com/Toplist/KFF-County.htm>

Parks and state and counties they are in.

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

*** Membership Dues***

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

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

<https://n4pvh.files.wordpress.com/2020/11/application-for-membership.pdf>

Please give the application and dues to the Treasurer at the meeting 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 Treasurer@w4amc.com.

Thank you for your continued support and participation in BARC.

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, Buy or Find:

I have a Yaesu G450 rotor , control box, and 125 ft of control cable for sale (complete system).

Contact George, WG8AR at home 252-623-1150 cell# 252-402-3517 or e-mail at "wg8ar@yahoo.com". Price \$350.

March 2026

BARC selling a Tri-bander Antenna

Check with Beth BEFORE Friday April 3 on cost. After that, it's going to RARSfest.

Ham Ads

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!

No Charge for Ham's selling or looking for items.

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/licManager/login.jsp](http://wireless2.fcc.gov/UlsEntry/licManager/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 on FACEBOOK

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

Facebook and Group details

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

Pitt County Repeater Association

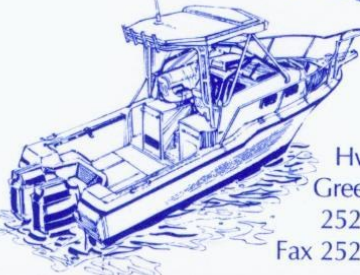
<http://www.pcra.us/>

Monday & Monday, CPA's, PA
 Certified Public Accountants

TERRY A. MONDAY, CPA, CVA, EA
K4ZYD

105-D East Victoria Ct. Phone (252) 321-6007
 Greenville, NC 27858 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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Contest, Events and Meetings

2026 Starts Here:

April 4 RARSfest
 April 9 PARC Meeting 7pm
 April 14 BARC Meeting 6:30pm
 April 18 **Walk MS**, Perimeter Park, 3005 Carrington Mill Blvd. Morrisville, NC 27560
 April 28 BARC Board 7pm
 May 9 **Tailgate Swap Meet and Cookout**, 9:00 am-2:00 pm. Lunch at Noon! **BARC and PARC**
 May 12 BARC Meeting 6:30pm
 May 14 PARC Meeting 7pm
 May 15 - 17 Dayton Hamvention, Xenia, Ohio
 May 26 BARC Board 7pm
 June 9 BARC Meeting 6:30pm FD prep
 June 11 PARC Meeting 7pm
 June 25 **Statewide Emergency exercise**
 June 27-28 **FIELD DAY**
 June 30 BARC Board 7pm
 Sept 12-13 **MS Bike New Bern**

Contest Calendar: For more Contest and all the rules:

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

Visit the [ARRL Contest Calendar](#) for more events and information.

Bruce Horn, WA7BNM, [Contest Calendar](#) website. The site now includes a [5-Week Calendar](#) .
There's more than I could post available.

BARC Meetings are open to all.

BARC Regular Meeting - 2nd Tuesday @ 6:30 PM Live

BARC Breakfast - Saturday after General meeting

BARC Board Meeting - Last Tuesday @ 7:00 PM ZOOM or Alternative Except in December.

PARC, Pamlico Meetings - 2nd Thursday @ 7pm

**** Club Activities, Events, Ideas and Dates to do together. ****

PUBLIC SERVICE? Website for NC hams who are interested in public service, Check it out at <https://hpsnc.org/>.

Special Event Stations

Working special event stations is an enjoyable way to help commemorate history. Many provide a special QSL card or certificate!

Apr. 11 – Apr. 12, 1400Z – 2200Z, W4AC, Nokomis, FL. Tamiami Amateur Radio Club. **Shark's Tooth Festival**. 14.034 14.260 28.034 28.460. QSL. Tamiami ARC, P.O. Box 976, Nokomis, FL 34274. www.tamiamiarc.org

Apr. 11 – Apr. 12, 1500Z – 0100Z, KC5OLO, Abilene, TX. Key City Amateur Radio Club. **Atlas Missile Silo**. 14.250 21.300 28.400. QSL. Key City Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 2722, Abilene, TX 79604. <https://keycityarc.org>

Apr. 14 – Apr. 19, 0817Z – 0817Z, W4S, Lakeland, FL. Lakeland Amateur Radio Club. **Sun & Fun Aerospace Exposition**. 7.40 14.40 18.93 28.40. QSL. Lakeland Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 90853, Lakeland, FL 33804. *Please send a self-addressed stamped envelope for QSL card.* info@lakelandarc.com

Apr. 16, 0900Z – 1600Z, W9W, New Castle, IN. Henry County (Indiana) Amateur Radio Club. **Wilbur Wright 159th Birthday Event**. 14.340. QSL. Dave Peters, 3517 Hampton Ct., New Castle, IN 47362. W9OB@yahoo.com or <https://w9ob.org>

Apr. 16 – Apr. 21, 0600Z – 0600Z, N5L, Gonzales, LA. Ascension Amateur Radio. **Louisiana Purchase Special Event**. 14.300. Certificate. K5ARC, P.O. Box 1617, Gonzales, LA 70707. www.k5arc.org

Apr. 17 – Apr. 20, 1200Z – 2359Z, W4AC, Nokomis, FL. Tamiami Amateur Radio Club. **Florida State Parks on the Air Contest**. 14.337. Certificate. Tamiami ARC, P.O. Box 976, Nokomis, FL 34274. www.fspota.org

Apr. 18, 1200Z – 1600Z, KG4NXO, Ocala, FL. Marion County Florida Emergency Radio Team (MERT). **MERT-22**. 443.875 reflector 30C KG4NXO; 3.950 7.235 14.275 (± 20) SSB. Certificate by email request. [KG4NXO, 7199 SW 95th Ct., Ocala, FL 34481. MERT-22@KG4NXO.com](mailto:KG4NXO@7199SW95thCt.com)

Apr. 23 – Apr. 27, 0500Z – 0500Z, K4H, Camden, SC. Kershaw County Amateur Radio Club, KC4RC. **Battle of Hobkirk's Hill Commemoration**. 3.825 7.225 14.325 21.325. Certificate upon request. info@kc4rc.com

Apr. 24 – Apr. 26, 1900Z – 1900Z, W0ZSW & W0EQO, Minneapolis, MN. Handiham Radio Club & Handiham Radio Club of Minnesota. **Handiham Program 59th Anniversary QSO Party**. 7.200 14.250 21.350 28.350. QSL. Handiham Program, 3915 Golden Valley Rd., Mail Route 78446, Minneapolis, MN 55422. www.handiham.net

Apr. 25, 1300Z – 2000Z, W2GSB, Babylon, NY. Great South Bay Amateur Radio Club. **Marconi Day**. 7.275 14.245 21.325 28.500. Certificate. GSBARC Marconi Day, 200 E. Sunrise Hwy., Lindenhurst, NY 11757. www.gsbarc.org

Apr. 25, 1300Z – 2100Z, K3S, Baltimore, MD. Nuclear Ship Savannah Amateur Radio Club. **International Marconi Day Official Station**. 7000. QSL. Ullis Fleming, 980 Patuxent Rd., Odenton, MD 21113. *Check spotting networks on all bands for frequency.* www.qrz.com/db/K3S

Apr. 30 – May 1, 1600Z – 0000Z, KA6OES, Eureka, CA. Humboldt County Sheriff's Office of Emergency Services. **BEACON Exercise**. 3.9920 7.1920 14.2205. Certificate. Greg Waters, ATT: OES, 826 4th St., Eureka, CA 95501. www.beaconexercise.org

Certificates and QSL cards: To obtain a certificate from any of the special event stations offering them, send your QSO information along with a 9 x 12-inch self-addressed, stamped envelope (3 units of postage) to the address listed in the announcement. To receive a special event QSL card (when offered), be sure to include a self-addressed, stamped business envelope along with your QSL card and QSO information.

Special Events Announcements: For items to be listed in this column, use the ARRL Special Events Listing Form at www.arrl.org/special-events-application, or email information to events@arrl.org.

Submissions must be received by ARRL HQ no later than the 1st of the second month preceding the publication date; a special event listing for **July QST** would have to be received by **May 1**. In addition to being listed in *QST*, your event will be listed on the ARRL Web Special Event page. Note: All received events are acknowledged. If you do not receive an acknowledgment within a few days, please contact us. ARRL reserves the

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Upcoming Section, State, Division Conventions and Hamfest

2026:

The [ARRL Hamfest and Convention Database](#) to find events in your area.