



Ham Chatter



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Meet The Member Jack Kear, K4MI

Jack graduated from high school in 1942 and entered active duty in the Army in Sep 1942 and was assigned to the signal corps as a radio technician and operator. While interested in radio at an early age, Jack passed his Class B (General) test. He was not awarded call letters at that time because the FCC was not giving any out. During this time he took part in the communications preparation for what he later found out to be the liberation of the Philippines. He took part in the invasion and so many men were lost he was called to duty in the operations center. He remembers that Joe Mazur, W8VKW who worked for the press service and could copy 60 wpm (messages were in 5 letter code groups) and was actually used to give information to General McArthur.

(Continued on page 7)



Jack Mear, K4MI

Next Meeting - Brother Simon, KQ2V, Resigns

The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club will have its next regular meeting on March 14 at 7:30 PM at St. Peter's School on 5th Street. The program will be about ARES. All members, families and guests are invited to attend.

The next board meeting is set for February 29 at 7:00 PM. The meeting is open to all members.

March 5, 2000 - According to the St. Peter's Catholic Church bulletin, BARC Honorary Member, Brother Simon Jaworski, KQ2V, has resigned as Principal of St. Peter's School at the end of the school year. - W4TEP

Time to Renew BARC Membership

Many Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club members have already paid dues for 2000. The BARC application was inserted in the January issue of *Ham Chatter*. Be sure to turn one in to Lily, KV4AW, to be sure your records are updated and correct. If you don't have an application, you may get one from Lily or go to the BARC Internet site address <http://www.qsl.net/w4amc/application.html> and print one out.

The dues have been increased this year as voted on a year ago.

The March Ham Chatter will be the last for those that have not paid up by April 1.

New North Carolina SM to visit Greenville

John Covington, W4CC, of Charlotte recently elected North Carolina SM, will be in Greenville on April 1 to attend the Down East Hamfest in Kinston on April 2. He is planning to be at Parker's BBQ on Memorial Drive for his evening meal and invites Amateur Radio operators in the area to join him. It will also be the day that John will succeed outgoing SM Reed Whitten, AB4W. John outpolled G. Roger Allen, KD4MYE, 951 to 891 in the election.

BARC February 18 VE Session

Fourteen people were successful at the Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club February VE session. There were two new Amateur Extra Classes, one new Advanced, three new Technician Pluses, one new Technician and seven passed the written part of the Amateur Extra.

Susan L. Jones, WA4AKB, (W4YDY's daughter) passed the code est

(Continued on page 5)

President's Corner - Murray,

"Time's a wastin" if you haven't renewed your membership - please send it in soon.

The last VE session saw a lot of activity and many hams are taking advantage of the license restructuring to upgrade by taking tests now and submitting their CSCE's after Apr 14. The next session will be Apr 7.

Our club has been very fortunate in having people interested in it enough to donate money, stamps and printing. It sure helps us and we appreciate it greatly.

While speaking of money, the Fund Raising Committee of **Juanita, KE4JWK, John, K4KBB and Bob, KE4UGC**, has been meeting and has come up with a good proposal for a raffle - we will need your help in selling a few tickets so we can replenish our equipment fund. They'll be rolling out

their campaign at the March meeting.

The International Festival in Greenville is set for May 6. This is a good, low key, enjoyable special event that gives us some community exposure. Plan to join us.

Jim, KF4VHH, has been working hard on the programs and has them

Lots of things are going on and there's more to come.

projected thru June. The March meeting will have us tied up in knots as the old scout master himself **Tom, W4TEP**, will show us how to tie a few. Maybe you've got some favorites to show us too.

The Board is beginning to discuss Field Day which is Jun 24 just a few

short months away. It's easier and more fun if we get a lot of participation.

We're told that **James, KD4JOV**, is recovering nicely. **Bernie's, WA4MOK**, step father in-law died unexpectedly - our thoughts are with you and your family Bernie.

Our brochure is being updated we appreciate the efforts of **Wayne, WD4JPQ**, and **Juanita, KE4JWK**, - this gives us the opportunity to get the word out even more.

Lots of things are going on and there's more to come. Hope to see you at the meeting.

Ham radio, pass it on.

73,

Murray, K4MHH

Court of Appeals upholds FCC preemption on RFI issues: The US Court of Appeals for the 10th Circuit has upheld FCC preemption of RFI issues. In *Southwestern Bell Wireless Inc v Johnson [Kansas] County Board of County Commissioners*, the court invalidated a zoning regulation adopted by the county that per-

mitted the county zoning administrator to determine that a communications tower or antenna was causing interference to public safety communications and to order the site to cease operations. The county included a restriction that tracked the terms of the regulation in a conditional-use permit to construct a 150-foot tower to be used by Southwestern Bell. Southwestern Bell successfully sought a declaratory judgment that the regulation was preempted by federal law. On the county's appeal, the Tenth Circuit held that Congress intended the FCC to have exclusive jurisdiction over RFI matters, leaving no room for local regulation. In a Ham-Law

Reflector posting, ARRL Volunteer Counsel Edward Ricco, N5LI, says the decision "should be of value to those continuing to encounter problems with local government efforts to regulate antenna structures by purporting to regulate RF interference."--
Edward Ricco, N5LI/Ham-Law Reflector - via ARRL Letter Online 2/4/00



Happy Birthday

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

3	KC4UCW	Jane Lindsley
7	W3OHF	Winfred Crockett
9	WB4RQG	Leland Tucker, Jr.
9	KD4ROQ	Jeff Wainwright
14	KD4MTR	James Hoover
17	KF4ZTD	William Wallace, Jr.
18	WA4DX	Donald Corley, Jr.
20	K4MHH	Murray Merner
21	KB4RES	Linda Leighty
23	KG4CCZ	Wayne Lukhard

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

Well Wishes

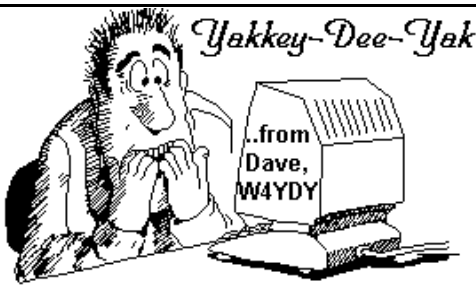
To **Bernie Noble, WA4MOK** and his family. His step father in-law passed away unexpectedly.

To **James Eubanks, KD4JOV**. He is recovering from heart surgery.

To **Doug Ferris, K4ROK**. He has had a bout with pneumonia.

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One thing that has me mystified is the constant rhetoric about Amateur Radio not attracting enough new people. I read that the ranks are decreasing, hamfest attendance is down and ham radio stores are losing money. I don't know about stores but the other numbers do not add up.

When I got my license, there were about 100,000 hams and a large hamfest was almost a thousand in attendance. The small ones had 50 to 100 with a picnic and no prizes. It was just a small flea market with hams meeting for an eyeball and selling their used gear out of the car trunk. I have some pictures of an annual

picnic at Raleigh's Pullen Park circa 1956 and the whole crowd posed for pictures. There were almost 50 people there including families. There must have been at least 35 hams at the park with some traveling more than 100 miles. I remember going to several of those "hamfests" in Raleigh, Rocky Mount, Morehead City and several other places. The only hamfest I can remember in the early 1950's that offered prizes was at the Charlotte National Guard Armory. I think there were several hundred in attendance but it could have topped one thousand. I went to a Shelby hamfest in 1954 and there were less than a hundred in attendance. We were in a parking lot next to US Highway 74 around the cars. That was 46 years ago. The Shelby hamfest everyone goes to now will be what is called the 44th annual hamfest. Last year's attendance was more than 15,000 and that's an increase of more than 1500 percent for a

large hamfest! The small hamfest will now have several hundred or more in attendance and prizes are always offered.

As far as the number of licensed Amateur Radio operators, in the early 50's, there were about 100,000 licensed. Now there are more than 700,000, an increase of more than 700 percent. The population of the United States has increased about 100 percent during that time. It sure looks like the Amateur Radio population has increased more than seven times faster. And some say Amateur Radio is dying.

With the new license regulations, time will have to tell if it helps with a sharp jump in licenced hams. The biggest effect will be the large number of upgrades from presently licensed hams. The ARRL Executive Vice President states that there were the least failures in Novice and Extra exams. For one, the

Novice is supposed to be the easiest exam and the ones that take the Extras have done it because they expected to pass the

20 WPM code test and put a lot of study in it. Everyone says that the present Advanced exam is harder than the Extra. If that is true, it looks as though that the proper questions have not been written for the Extra or maybe the Advanced. With the new regulations, one has to only take a total of 130 questions for the Extra license. The present route for the Extra is 185 questions. Also, the word is out that the questions for the new exams are about the same with Advanced and Extra being combined. So the persons starting out in Amateur Radio will have a CW exam that is 75 percent slower and they will have 30 percent less questions to get to the Amateur Extra!

I can understand the excitement of others that have a chance to upgrade. If I had a lower class license or was just starting in Amateur radio, I would be very happy for the opportunity. I am also happy that some of my relatives will soon

Is Amateur Radio really dying? I don't think so.

FCC Threatens Michigan Ham With Revocation Hearing

The FCC has told a Michigan ham he could face a revocation hearing if the Commission gets any more reports alleging malicious interference. A Warning Notice went out February 23 to Tech Plus licensee Allen J. Stap Sr, N8OKU, of Bangor, Michigan. In it, FCC Special Counsel for Amateur Radio Enforcement advised Stap that the FCC has received "numerous complaints regarding malicious interference and jamming, apparently originating from your station" to a 2-meter repeater. Hollingsworth said some of the interference to the Kalamazoo Amateur Radio Club's repeater consisted of "sound effects, unidentified transmissions and keying over ongoing communications." The FCC said there was further evidence that the licensee had been harassing repeater users.

Hollingsworth warned Stap that if "legitimate complaints or our monitoring reveal additional instances of this behavior," the FCC intends to designate his station license for a revocation hearing and his operator license for suspension for the remainder of its term.

According to the FCC, Stap pled
(Continued on page 4)

upgrade and I will be able to talk with them on any HF band instead of the Tech Plus bands.

Is Amateur Radio really dying? I don't think so. But if it does, I don't think it will be because of numbers. It would be because of operators flaunting the regulations and turning it into a giant CB band! Hopefully the FCC can keep it under control and put an end to the malicious interference and profanity. It used to be that one could have their family come in and listen but there are some that think that no one is listening except the person they are talking with. Do they talk or have they talked that way in front of their family and children? I think not.



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FCC Threatens Michigan Ham With Revocation Hearing

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guilty in a Michigan district court to interfering with the transmission of public safety messages. He was sentenced to nine months probation and ordered to surrender his 2-meter gear for the duration.

Elsewhere, the FCC has requested that Jeffrey G. Guss, KF4MWT, of Palm Bay, Florida, retake the Technician class amateur examination elements by March 30 or lose his license. In 1997, Guss was cited for unlicensed operation on 154.6 MHz, for failing to permit FCC personnel to inspect his radio equipment, and for failing to reply to FCC correspondence. Early last year, the FCC upheld a \$2500 fine levied against Guss and denied a payment extension. It's not known if Guss ever paid the forfeiture.

In Salisbury, North Carolina, the FCC wrote Advanced licensees James W. Walls, NC4JW, and Jerry W. Cartner, K4JWC, and Tech Plus licensee James R. Christie, KF4QWR, on February 24, citing information that the licensees have been using ham gear on the Citizens Band and other frequencies. The FCC also alleged they had been selling transmitting equipment that does not meet FCC certification standards over the air on those frequencies and operating above authorized CB power limits. In separate letters, Hollingsworth warned all three that such operation could jeopardize their amateur licenses. The FCC gave the three licensees 20 days to respond to the allegations. - via ARRL Letter Online 3/3/00



OK! You have done very well with the "E". Next week, we'll work on the "I"!!!

Via SERA Repeater Journal, Vol. 29 #1

FCC Gives Morse Element Credit to Expired Novices

Anyone who ever held a Novice ticket--expired or otherwise--will be able to claim credit for Element 1, the 5 WPM Morse code examination, under revised Amateur Radio licensing rules going into effect April 15. The change was included in the version of the FCC's restructuring rules, published February 10 in The Federal Register.

The change affects §97.505(a) (5) of the rules that spells out element credit. That sentence now says: "An expired or unexpired FCC-granted Novice Class operator license grant: Element 1."

The rules already give Element 1 credit for those holding an expired or unexpired FCC-issued Technician Class operator license document granted before February 14, 1991, as well as to applicants possessing an FCC-issued commercial radiotelegraph operator license or permit that's valid or expired less than 5 years.

There's no indication, however, that the FCC intends to extend Element 1 credit to applicants who once held any other FCC-issued licenses now expired, including Tech Plus, General, Advanced, or Amateur Extra.

Because of other anomalies in the new rules, the ARRL is recommending for now that holders of Novice or Tech Plus licenses retain their license documents or copies in the event they need to claim Element 1 credit when upgrading under the new rules. When renewed after April 15, 2000, Technician Plus licenses will come back stamped "Technician," and the FCC has said it does not plan to keep track of which Technicians have Morse code element credit and which do not.

The FCC also has indicated to the ARRL that post-April 15 Technicians who subsequently qualify for HF operation by passing Element 1 will retain element credit for upgrading purposes only for 365 days--the term of a Certificate of Successful Completion of Examination--not permanently, although this will not affect their ongoing Novice/Technician HF privileges. Without a change in the

FCC Fines Two Texas Amateurs for Malicious Interference

The FCC has fined two Texas hams \$8000 apiece for allegedly interfering with a local repeater and failing to identify. Paul E. Holcombe, K4TOF, and Robert L. Myers, N5WLY, both of Houston, were notified last month by the FCC's Houston office. The fines come in the aftermath of an FCC investigation undertaken last year that involved the use of direction-finding equipment. The FCC says it's been hearing complaints of interference to the Memorial Emergency Repeater Association's system for more than five years now.

On separate occasions in February and May, FCC personnel from the Houston field office used direction-finding gear to track transmissions interfering with MERA's 145.47 repeater to Holcombe's and Meyers' vehicles. As a result, Holcombe and Meyers each received a Notice of Violation from the FCC last June. Since being cited, both men have denied the allegations in statements to the FCC.

In both cases, the FCC determined otherwise and ordered Holcombe and Meyers to pay the fines within 30 days or to file written statements showing why the forfeitures should be reduced or canceled. - via ARRL Letter Online



rules, affected Technicians attempting to upgrade more than a year after passing Element 1 would have to retake the Morse code examination.

The ARRL plans to file a petition for partial reconsideration asking the FCC to continue to keep track of which Technicians have Morse code element credit and which do not. The League also will ask the FCC to make Element 1 credit permanent for post-April 15 Technicians who successfully pass the Morse exam.

FCC Continues W5YI-VEC South Carolina Exam Audit

As part of a continuing audit of several W5YI-VEC examination sessions last summer and fall in South Carolina, the FCC is seeking details from two volunteer examiners concerning a test session in Iva, South Carolina. The FCC already is looking into W5YI-VEC exam sessions in Clemson last summer.

In separate letters January 28, FCC Special Counsel for Amateur Radio Enforcement Riley Hollingsworth wrote volunteer examiners Eugene D. Watring, AF4DB, of Iva, and James F. Chambers, KF4PWF, of Greenville, both South Carolina. Hollingsworth re-

quested that Watring and Chambers provide detailed information concerning the October 9, 1999, exam session in Iva at which both were listed as an assisting VE under William J. Browning, formerly AB4BB and AF4PJ, a central figure in the probe. Browning's Amateur Extra license was canceled after he failed to appear for retesting.

Copies of testing-related documents that Browning had submitted following the examination session accompanied the FCC inquiry. Hollingsworth asked Watring and Chambers if either

signed the test session manifest or any Forms 610 or authorized anyone to sign on his behalf; if either was present for the exam session or any part of it, and, if so, the time and location; the nature of his involvement, if any, in the October 9 examination session, and, if not present, how he became aware that his "purported signature" appeared on the exam session documents. Watring and Chambers were requested to provide the information within 30 days.

The W5YI-VEC is cooperating in the probe.

passed examinations at the targeted South Carolina sessions last summer and fall were designated for retesting. The FCC already has canceled the licenses of two individuals tested at the October 9 session after the individuals failed to show up for retesting.

Chambers, Watring and Browning were said to have served as VEs for other W5YI-VEC testing sessions last summer, and the FCC also is looking into allegations of irregularities at those sessions. The W5YI-VEC is cooperating in the probe. - *via ARRL Letter Online*

Next VE Session April 7, 2000

The next Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club VE session will be held on April 7. Exams will be held at St. Peter's School on 5th Street. Exams will start promptly at 6:30 PM. - *KQ2V*
Please bring the following:

- ◆ Photo ID (drivers license)
- ◆ Original Amateur Radio License
- ◆ Copy of Amateur Radio License
- ◆ Original CSCE's
- ◆ Copy of CSCE
- ◆ Test fee is \$6.65

ARRL-VEC to charge for code tests

Starting with the inception of the new FCC Amateur Radio licensing rules on April 15, 2000, the ARRL-VEC will charge a test fee of \$6.65 to take the Element 1 (5 WPM Morse code) test. Until April 15, the 5 WPM Morse code test (Element 1A) and/or the Novice written test (Element 2) are free at ARRL-VEC test sessions. - *via ARRL Letter Online 2/18/00*

Revised question pools now available

Revised Amateur Radio examination question pools for the new Elements 2, 3 and 4 that become effective April 15, 2000, now are available on

BARC February 18 VE Session

(Continued from page 1)

and aced the written exam to earn her Amateur Extra license. Bob Hanrahan, Jr., KG4FWB, passed the General, Advanced and Extra written exams to earn his Amateur Extra license. Bob passed the 20 WPM code and the Novice and Tech exams at the BARC December session. His dad, W2LWQ, from Elverson, PA passed the Amateur Extra written.

Others successful with the Amateur Extra written were Tom Parsons, W4TEP, Greenville; Bill Dawson, WA4SLC, and Bob Richardson, KR4TW, Washington; Roy Tyndall, WN4NMU, Grifton; Ed Gunter, N2VEA, Kinston; and Richard Parker, WB2UEF, Cambria Heights, NY. Bob Fainter, KE4UGC, passed the Advanced exam and is waiting to receive a new callsign.

Three new Technician Plus licensees are Noah Black, KF4YBG, from Chapel Hill, and Kenneth McCain and Ben Epting, IV, from New Bern. Edna Minor from Williamston passed the requirements for the Technician license.

Brother Simon, KQ2V, VE Liaison, was assisted by Cliff Kendall, N3LEX, Jerry Clayton, K4IDD, Murray Merner, K4MHM, and Dave Langley, W4YDY. It was one of the largest VE sessions held in Greenville. The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club congratulates all of the successful applicants. There were some happy people at the end of it, not to mention the examiners!

The next BARC VE session will be held on April 7, one week earlier than usual due to the restructuring of exams starting April 15. This will be the last chance to pass the 13 or 20 WPM code exams! - *W4YDY*

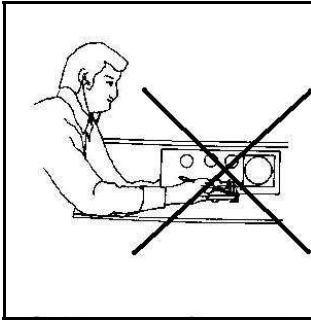
ARRLWeb at <http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/pools.html>. The ARRL-VEC's Wayne Irwin, W1KI, says the revised pools remain a work-in-progress, and graphics still are being integrated. Irwin says the current Novice, Technician, Advanced and Amateur Extra graphic sheets remain available and valid. Examinations for Elements 2 and 3 will contain 35 questions; examinations for Element 4 contain 50 questions. - *via ARRL Letter Online 2/4/00*

Michigan Ham Yields License Until 2004 in Exam Case

The FCC has cut a deal with former ARRL-VEC Volunteer Examiner Andrew Penn, N8JVA, whose license was designated for a revocation hearing in the wake of 1997 examination irregularities in Michigan. A February 7 letter to Penn from FCC Special Counsel for Amateur Radio Enforcement Riley Hollingsworth affirms the terms of a voluntary agreement calling for Penn to turn in his Amateur Extra class license for three years, ten months in lieu of facing a license revocation hearing.

The FCC action stemmed from a June 3, 1997, Oak Park, Michigan, examination session for which Penn was a

VE and submitted the paperwork for applicants, one of them Penn's son. As a result of an FCC investigation, the FCC downgraded the license class of two applicants and canceled the license of Penn's son, Steven A. Penn, formerly KC8HUM. FCC evidence indicated that Andrew Penn added to the exam session package paperwork for applicants who did not pass the required examination elements at the Oak Park session. Evidence also indicated that Andrew Penn



apparently applied to the application papers the signatures of three other VEs without their knowledge.

The FCC says that three of the examiners knew nothing of the scheme. The other three VEs brought the situation to the attention of the ARRL-VEC and the FCC.

The FCC agreement calls for Andrew Penn to turn in his license by April 20, 2000. He will be allowed to request renewal of his license on February 21, 2004, the day before his current license term ends. - via ARRL Letter Online 2/11/00

ARISS Crews get Initial Ham Gear Training

The first International Space Station expedition crew and its backup crew have received some initial training on the use of the initial US-provided Amateur Radio gear to be installed as part of the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station, or ARISS, effort. The session was conducted at Russia's Gagarin Cosmonauts Training Centre.

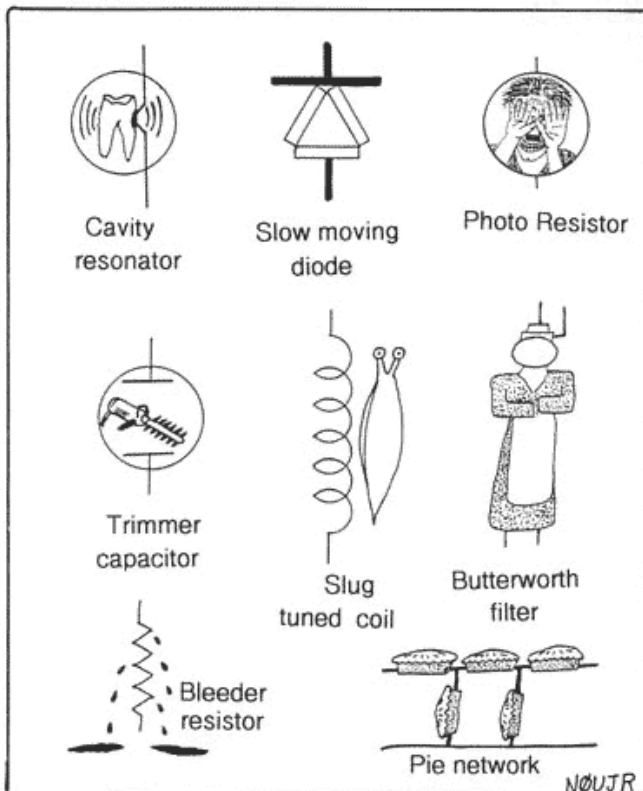
As part of the ARISS training effort, NASA's Matt Bordelon, KC5BTL, is preparing a consolidated schedule for training in the US and in Russia that will include familiarization with equipment, packet theory and hands-on training, using a hardware mockup, and simulation. Training will focus on general principles of ham radio as well as preparations to use ham radio, equipment types and operating modes, and general packet module information and software.

Bordelon has held an initial training session with astronauts and cosmonauts that provided exposure to the actual hardware. Other training has included the information required to obtain an US Amateur Radio license. The first ISS crew includes US astronaut Bill Shepherd, KD5GSL, and Russian Cosmonauts Sergei Krikalev, U5MIR, and the recently licensed Yuri Gaidzenko, whose call sign was not available.--Carolynn Conley, NASA - via ARRL Letter Online 2/25/00

Enhanced DXCC Card Checking Coming

The ARRL DXCC Desk says that effective April 1, 2000, DXCC members may have their cards checked by local card checkers without having to mail cards to ARRL Headquarters. Under the new program, DXCC card checkers will be able to check all awards except 160 meter DXCC, as well as all QSLs from any current DXCC entity. This will apply to both new awards and endorsements. QSOs made up to 10 years prior to the current year will be eligible for field checking, while older cards and those from deleted entities still may be sent to ARRL HQ. The current DXCC Field Checking program ends March 31, 2000. Reappointment of DXCC Card Checkers under new criteria will be necessary. For more information, contact Bill Moore, NC1L, dxcc@arrl.org; 860-594-0234.--DXCC - via ARRL Letter Online 2/25/00

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Little known standard electronic symbols.

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

Canada, Australia eye Morse Speed Reduction

Canada and Australia could follow the US in reducing the Morse code examination requirement to 5 WPM for full HF access. Radio Amateurs of Canada announced plans this month to ask Industry Canada to eliminate that country's 12 WPM Morse requirement. The RAC Board of Directors has voted unanimously in favor of the proposal, expected to be filed soon. If enacted, the change would leave 5 WPM as the sole Morse code examination requirement for full HF access in Canada.

Meanwhile, the Wireless Institute of Australia reports it's seriously considering whether to push regulatory authorities to reduce the maximum Morse code license test speed Down Under from 10 to 5 WPM. WIA says it expects to discuss the matter in detail next month with the Australian Communications Authority.

The WIA says a majority of its membership divisions appear to favor the reduction from 10 to 5 WPM in Australia. The general issue of Morse code licensing requirements is expected to be a topic for debate at the IARU Region 3 conference the WIA will host later this year. Discussion of the International Radio Regulations regarding the Morse code requirement is not expected to come up prior to the World Radiocommunication Conference set for 2003.

A single 5 WPM Morse code examination requirement for HF access goes into effect in the US on April 15 as part of sweeping licensing rules changes. The United Kingdom and Sweden also have adopted 5 WPM as the Morse code examination requirement for access to the full HF amateur spectrum. The South African Telecommunications Regulatory Authority is said to be poised to act on a South African Radio League request for a lower code speed limit there. Other nations have expressed interest in the issue.

The Israeli Ministry of Communications has introduced a new license with a 6 WPM Morse code requirement that gives CW-only access to HF bands. The new ticket does not include all HF bands, however. - *via ARRL Letter Online 2/18/00*

Meet The Member - Jack Kear, K4MI

(Continued from page 1)

After the war, Jack got his W3MCB call sign. utilizing the GI Bill, he went to school and became a radio engineer. His first job was with a commercial broadcast station WCAE in Pittsburgh -twice he work with Edward R. Morrow. Jack later worked for other stations and in 1961 he joined the Radio Voice of Gospel of the Lutheran Church and was assigned to Ethiopia and stayed there until 1964. He used the call sign ET3JK and was active on the air He worked 330 countries using a 20 meter quad. In 1962 in a 10 to 12 hour period he and another ham worked 1800 to 2000 QSO's.

Coming back to the US Jack joined the VOA and was assigned to Greenville, NC and remained with them for 25 years. retiring June 1990 and continued living in Greenville for about six more years.

In 1967 Jack Kear, K4MI and four or five other hams including Bob Knapp, Charlie Wells, Lemar Reed, and Ray Avis met and created the Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club. The defunct Greenville Amateur Radio Club donated \$110.00 which was left in their treasury. One of there reason Jack gives for the selection of "Brightleaf" is because the tobacco companies would pay for the QSL cards! He credits Bob for making the major effort during the early years of the club - sometimes BARC stood for *Bob's* Amateur Radio Club.

Jack's current equipment include: TenTec Omni Six Plus; using a Icom 738 as back up and Has a Kenwood TS 830 on the shelf. He lives on .8 acre on a hill which he is able to use to his advantage. He has a Gap Titan DX up 28 feet. He also enjoys building an-

tenna and has a 20 meter 1/2 square at 40 feet; a 15 meter 1/2 square at 60 feet and a 160 meter inverted L. He utilizes the trees that are available and prefers a Double Wang sling shot to snag the limbs. He is working on an 80 meter super loop phased antenna configuration. He also likes the Gem Quad. On 2 meters he has a 5/8 vertical up about 30 feet. Jack has published an article in Jan 1972 QST on the Shortened Z L Special entitled "Five DB for \$5.00". That March, he had comments in QST in the Tech Topics section.

His interests include antennas, DX and has many scheds during the week including one with Greenville ham Henry Peszco, WB4DWC and others in the VOA and in the broadcasting field.


While not quite sure after all these years, Jack thinks he was president of BARC at one time and taught some new ham classes.

Many of our members will remember Jack's wife Zelda who died Jul 12, 1997. He has two children Robert who lives in Harrisburg, NC and Regina living in Factoryville, PA. He has one grandchild, Johnathan.

Ham radio has provided, and continues to provide, a beneficial and challenging activity. Jack is one of the founding fathers of BARC and we owe him and the others a great deal of thanks in making the effort that we benefit from now. Thanks Jack. - *K4MHM*

K4KBB

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BARC Monthly Minutes - February 2000

Minutes of 2/11/00 BARC meeting

In the absence of President Murray, K4MHM, Mike Langley, KD4MTT, presided.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report, Bob, KE4UGC

Income up to this meeting this year was \$656.00, for a total in our account of 2098.67. Of this, \$17.00 is in the newsletter account and \$1000.00 is designated for equipment and fund raising, leaving \$1081.67 undesignated.

The Budget for 2000 was presented. Our income is projected to be \$1346.00 including the carryover from last year of \$425.00. Our projected expense total is \$1771.00. It was proposed that the \$1000.00 from P&G (designated for equipment and fund raising) be put into an interest bearing account. This was discussed and it was decided to table this motion to get further information on the best kind of interest bearing account for us. Tom, W4TEP, moved that we accept the budget, seconded by Cliff, N3LEX. This was approved. Juanita, KE4JWK, noted that our annual \$100.00 donation to St. Peter's was not in the budget and moved that it be inserted. This was seconded by Ken, N8FF, and approved.

The Secretary (Lily, KV4AW) reported we received newsletters from Pamlico, Greensboro and Kinston clubs, and that members were invited to visit the Wilson Amateur Radio Club any time. They meet at the Golden Corral in Wilson on the first Monday of the month at 6:30 for dinner and 7:30 for the meeting.

Committee Reports

Health & Welfare reported that Bernie Nobles', WA4MOK, step-father-in-law had passed away. Also James Eubanks, KD4JOV, is to undergo heart surgery on Feb. 14. The surgery will be done by Dr. Randy Chitwood, K4VBS.

John Paul Roy and his son JP Roy are both in the hospital as of this meeting.

Walter Dail, past mayor of Winterville and a former ham has also died.

Programs--Jim Smith, KF4VHH, told us that the March program will be Tom Parsons, W4TEP, on KNOTS. Bring your own rope.

April is the first Field Day program. We will be looking for committee chairs to head up Field Day events and set-up.

June is Field Day and Jim is trying to get a local weatherman to participate.

Suggestion for speakers is Chris Bremmer.

VE Session will be on Feb. 18, Friday. Br. Simon is changing the old code tests. A new question pool is out, reflecting new licensing class questions, but not too many other changes.

It is getting hard to renew licenses on the net.

Old Techs licensed before 1987 who have let their licenses lapse are now eligible to be Generals.

More VE's are needed and thanks to all the VE volunteers.

Equipment--the status of the new trailer is still unsure. The club will need to decide what to do with the old trailer if we get the new one.

Ham Chatter--Dave, W4YDY, would like to know if it would be all right with the membership to put the roster of names on the website. He will include names, email addresses and call signs only, no addresses or phone numbers. If any members would prefer not to have this done, please contact Dave and tell him.

Old Business

Fund raising--A discussion was held on the number of tickets that should be sold. Mike, KD4MTT, suggested 500 and Bob, KE4UGC, suggested 20/person. Juanita, KE4JWK, will get a price on a weather station some time in May. Mike asked if the three committee members (Juanita, KE4JWK, Bob, KE4UGC, and John, K4KBB) could meet and bring a proposal to the next meeting.

Historian--still looking.

Ham ID--need a fresh list

Trailer--pending

Brochure--updated and Wayne, WD4JPQ, will work on getting it copied at the least expense to us.

New Business

Strong Angel--Dave has information on this joint Navy/civilian exercise to be held in Hawaii. Paul, KS4YF, has turned in list for equipment to be pur-

chased to support a permanent station in Brody, totaling approximately \$15,000.

The ER supposedly has a room for us in the new construction they are proposing. Our existing equipment may be moved.

Tonight was BARC's birthday party and everyone enjoyed cake and ice cream.

The program tonight was presented by Bernie Nobles, KA4MOK, and Doug Ferris, K4ROK, on ARES.

Program--Wayne Ross, WD4JPQ, Doug Ferris, K4ROK, and Bernie Nobles, WA4MOK, are all active in the ARES program as district managers and coordinators.

Bernie passed out forms for all those who are honestly interested in helping ARES to fill out. For you to be continued as a member, you must provide this updated information.

The Eastern Branch office will be moving to the Kinston airport area soon.

Two good resources are the Public Service Communications Manual (free or minimal charge) and the ARES Field Resources Manual (\$5.00).

Doug encouraged everyone interested in ARES to meet the Monday night, 9:00PM net on 145.09. There will be radiogram practice and you can get a feel for how to properly and most efficiently communicate on a net.

Respectively,

Lily Fainter, KV4AW

FCC Affirms Fine; Unlicensed Operation Continues

The FCC has affirmed a \$20,000 fine levied on a Florida man last summer for unlicensed operation, willful and malicious interference with Amateur Radio communications, and failure to let the FCC inspect his radio equipment. The FCC's January 28 Forfeiture Order gives William Flippo of Jupiter 30 days to pay up or the matter will be referred to the US Attorney.

(Continued on page 9)

Ham Ads

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

For Sale:

Cushcraft 11 element 2 meter beam.
TV antenna with Alliance rotor.
\$75 or best offer. Buyer will take down.
W. C. Mayo, KD4AAQ, 756-9890

For Sale:

Ameritron Amplifier, 3 - 811A's, 600 Watts. - \$400 - New in the box, never plugged in. (New price around \$650)
Ted Kummer, N3TK, 252-816-2466.

Wanted:

Used HT for 2 meters.
Ben Epting, III, N4NOA
BREpting@exicte.com or 252-637-7890.

Wanted:

Manual for HP Desk Jet 500 Printer.
Murray Merner, K4MHM, 757-3429
K4mhm@arrl.net

Ham Was Aboard Flight 261

At least one Amateur Radio operator reportedly was aboard the ill-fated Alaska Airlines Flight 261 that crashed into the Pacific in February. According to Dianna Killeen, KB6NAN, the passenger was Robert A. "Bob" Ost, KC6ZUC, a Technician class licensee from San Bruno, California. Killeen reports Ost was a fireman and a hang glider and "a great guy." He also was Killeen's "Elmer." Ost was 39 years old. His wife Ileana and infant daughter Emily also were aboard Flight 261. - *via ARRL Letter Online 2/4/00*

FCC Affirms Fine;

(Continued from page 8)

Following an FCC Warning Notice, Flippo initially was notified of the fine last July in an FCC Notice of Apparent Liability. Hams in Florida say Flippo has thumbed his nose at the FCC and has continued to flout the law by interfering with local HF and repeater nets. FCC personnel from the FCC's Tampa District Office have followed up on complaints from amateurs that Flippo--also known by his CB handle of "Rabbit Ears"--has regularly interfered with hams on 10 meters, 2 meters and elsewhere. The Order acknowledges that the Commission has received information on "at least five occasions" since the fine was levied last July indicating that Flippo continues to violate federal law.

Flippo's only response to last year's Notice of Apparent Liability was to send the FCC a copy of a one-page bankruptcy filing. The FCC was not impressed, however. "In a case where an NAL has been issued and the recipient continues to engage in the same conduct, we are not inclined to adjust the forfeiture amount, even where the recipient has filed for bankruptcy protection," the Commission said.

One Jupiter-area ham who has cooperated with the FCC investigation says Flippo has been causing problems for the amateur community in his area since late 1997. He and fellow members of the Jupiter-Tequesta Repeater Group want to see the FCC take a stronger stand in the case.

"I want to see the guy in jail--plain and simple--and his equipment confiscated," said the amateur, who did not want to be identified by name fearing retaliation. "The problem is, we're all playing by the rules here, and this guy goes out and buys a radio and he gets on there and does whatever he wants and brags about it."

FCC personnel from the Tampa office have visited the Jupiter area at least twice last year as a result of amateur complaints alleging malicious interference from Flippo, primarily on VHF but also on some HF amateur bands. - *via ARRL Letter Online 2/18/00*

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Help support *Ham Chatter*. Donations accepted!

NETS

VHF

- ◆ BARC Net, Mondays, 2000 on 147.09 MHz, W4GDF Repeater.
- ◆ Pitt County Emergency Communications Net, Mondays, 2100 on 147.09 MHz. (131.8 Hz Tone)
- ◆ Kinston Amateur Radio Society Net, 1,3,4 Tuesdays, 2000 hrs. on 145.47 MHz., W4OIX repeater in Kinston.
- ◆ Eastern North Carolina Traffic Net, Every night, 2030 on 146.685 MHz.
- ◆ New Bern Amateur Radio Club/ Eastern NC 220 Association for the WD4JMS & WA4DAN Net, Monday, 2000 on 146.61 and 224.84 MHz
- ◆ Wilson Amateur Radio Club Net, Monday 2030 on 146.76 MHz.
- ◆ Piedmont Coastal Traffic Net, Nightly 2030 on 146.88 MHz.
- ◆ Newport WFO SKYWARN Net, Wednesday, 2100 on 145.21 MHz
- ◆ Coastal Emergency Linking Net, Wednesday, 2100 ET on Williamston 145.410 & 444.250, Columbia 146.835 & 443.300, Rocky Mount 147.120, Ahoskie 146.910, Franklin, VA 147.300, Farmville 145.270, (Buxton 145.150 Coming Soon)
- ◆ Beaufort County Emergency Communications Net, Thursday 2000 on 147.345 MHz. Preceded by Newsmen at 1930.

HF

- ◆ Tar Heel Emergency Communications Net on 3923 kHz Nightly 1930.

NTS CW Nets

- ◆ 3.695 2000 hours, slow speed (5-8 wpm) Carolinas Slow Net
- ◆ 3.573 1900 hours, high speed (20 wpm)
- ◆ 3.573 2200 hours, slow speed (12-14 wpm), South Carolina/North Carolina

BARC

March 14 **Regular Meeting**
March 25-26 CQ WW SSB WPX Contest
March 28 **Board Meeting**
April 1 Ham Chatter **Deadline**
April 2 **Down East Hamfest - Kinston**
April 7 BARC VE Session @ 6:30PM
April 9 Hamfest - Raleigh
April 11 **Regular Meeting**
April 25 **Board Meeting**
April 29 Ham Chatter **Deadline**
May 9 **Regular Meeting**
May 27-28 CQ WW CQ WPX Contest

June 3 Ham Chatter **Deadline**
June 13 **Regular Meeting**
June 16 BARC VE Session @ 6:30PM
June 24-25 ARRL Field Day
June 27 **Board Meeting**
July 1 Ham Chatter **Deadline**
July 8-9 IARU HF World Championship
July 11 **Regular Meeting**
July 15 Cary Hamfest
July 25 **Board Meeting**
August 5 Ham Chatter **Deadline**

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

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

W 4 A M C - W I V O A

Next Meeting
March 14

March 2000

To:



PO Box 8387
Greenville, NC 27835

Ham Chatter