

Ham Chatter



Volume 38 Issue 1

An Official BARC, W4AMC, Publication

January 2004

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Meet the Member Dan Drake, KG4ISO

Dan Drake, KG4ISO, is the 2004 Second Vice President of the Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club. He is one of our younger and newer members of the club and it is great to have new input to the club. Dan's reply to my request for information how he got interested in Amateur is stated in his own words.

"I am not like most ham radio operators who had a relative or friend who got them interested in ham radio. I really didn't know much about ham radio until one day a few years ago when I was looking on the internet about FRS radios, I kept running into ham radio gear for sale. I have always liked electronics and gadgets and so I read about ham radio on the ARRL website and became interested.

"I picked up the book *Now Look Who's Talking* and knew that ham radio was for me. Both my wife and I studied for the tech exam for a couple of months. We didn't know anybody who was a ham but we figured that we could use it to talk to each other. So when we felt ready to

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Dan Drake, KG4ISO

Murray Merner, K4MHM, BARC Ham of the Year

Murray also receives Special Service Award

Murray Merner, K4MHM, receives BARC Ham of the Year at the BARC Christmas Party.

The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club held its annual Christmas Party in December and there was plenty of good food for all. Thanks to Bonnie, KG4CZW and Dave Pulver, KG4CZV, for their efforts it getting the party set up and ready to go. After the feast, awards were presented and Mike Langley, KD4MTT, was the MC. He presented many of the awards and

(Continued on page 4)

Annual Dues are Due!

BARC dues are due on January 1, 2004.

On page 5, there is an application for membership. Please fill it out and turn it in with your dues. BARC needs it to keep records up to date. For those on the Internet, go to the BARC web site and look in the *CONTENTS* and click on "BARC Application Form" for the HTML version or "PDF" for the PDF version. Print, complete and turn it in with your dues.

If you are not sure you owe dues for this year, contact John McCoy, K4KBB, for the information. Some joined very late in the year and will not be required to pay again for 2004.

Those that have not paid by the last weekend in March will be dropped from the roster to be printed in April. Also, *Ham Chatter* will be discontinued and email notifications will cease.

Next Meeting January 13

The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club will have its next regular meeting on January 13 at 7:30 PM at VFW Post Home 7032 at 1108 Mumford Road in Greenville. All members, families and guests are invited to attend.

The next board meeting is set for January 27 at 7:30. The meeting is open to all members.

December 12 VE Session Results

Two qualified for the Technician license at the December 12 VE Session. They were Philip Garrett, KI4DLO, Winterville and Jesse Lee, KI4DLN, Greenville. Their new calls signs were assigned by the FCC on December 18. Philip, KI4DLO, also joined BARC. Congratulations to the new Amateur Radio operators.

Tom Parsons, W4TEP, led the VE team consisting of Murray Merner, K4MHM, Dave Langley, W4YDY, Byron Highland, K4BMH, and Gerry Clayton, K4IDD.

The next VE Session to be sponsored by BARC will be on February 20. For more information, see page 4.

*Happy
New Year!*

President's Corner - Mike, KD4MTT

Let me begin by saying thank you to all of the members that helped make BARC a club that provides guidance and direction to those interested in ham radio. Any organization is the sum of its parts, and I'm glad to say the BARC has some of the best in the hobby. During our holiday party we recognize club officers and honorees, but BARC can not survive without the hard work and energy provided by all of the members, I feel privileged for the opportunity to work with each and everyone during the coming year.

A partial list of activities that the Club was involved in during 2003 includes: VOA Special Event Station, NC QSO Party, Farmville Dogwood Festival, Boy Scout Merit Badge Fair, new ham classes, VE sessions, Elmer sessions, and the summer fun at Field Day. While not officially a club activity, most of our members also dedicated much of their time in support of ARES activities before, during and after hurricane Isabel.

We are looking for volunteers to replace Murray, K4MHM, in his roles as associate Ham Chatter editor and Technician Class manager. Maybe we can convince Richard, KG4SNE, to follow up this year's superb job as Field Day Chairman with an even better 2004 performance.

Think about where you would like to see the club go this year and what you would like to accomplish. Then there's that Historian we've looking for! Hi! Hi!

The NC QSO Party on February 29th will be a great opportunity for members to work a group. The activity is part contest, but it also provides Technicians a way to get exposure to the HF bands in preparation for license upgrades.

Elmer classes will be starting again soon. Give Bernie, WA4MOK, and John, K4KBB, ideas for what you would like to cover.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the club meeting on January 13th at the VFW Post on Mumford Road.

HAM RADIO – TALK IT UP

Mike, KD4MTT

CQ names Floyd Gerald, N5FG, as Worked All Zones awards manager

CQ has named Floyd Gerald, N5FG, as CQ Worked All Zones (WAZ) awards manager. He succeeds Paul Blumhardt, K5RT, who is stepping down after four years due to increased work and family commitments. Licensed since 1972, Gerald is an accomplished DXer and the holder of many Amateur Radio operating awards. An ARRL member, he also has served as a CQ awards and ARRL DXCC card checker. After February 1, WAZ applications and cards go to Floyd Gerald, N5FG, 17 Green Hollow Rd, Wiggins, MS 39577-8318. – via ARRL Letter Online

International Morse Code gets new character

The 2003 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-03) may have eliminated the treaty requirement for prospective amateurs to demonstrate Morse code proficiency to gain HF access, but the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) hasn't forgotten Morse code altogether. In Geneva on December 5, the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) Study Group 8 agreed on the wording of a Draft New Recommendation ITU-R M. [MORSE] that specifies the international Morse code character set and transmission procedures. It also includes a new Morse code character to cover the "@" symbol used in e-mail addresses.

Within the ITU, the international Morse code has been defined by the Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T), which is responsible for the public telephone and telegraph network--mostly landline. A couple of years ago, the ARRL pointed out to the US delegation to the ITU Radiocommunication Advisory Group that Morse code's role more properly resides in the radiocommunication realm, not wire, and should be the responsibility of ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R).

(Continued on page 9)



Happy Birthday

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

- 2 KD4AFL Mac Manning
- 6 KF4RBJ Joyce Griswell
- 11 KG4ODX Bill Wheeler
- 12 KI4CRD Richard Cox
- 15 W4EHF Bill Finch
- 26 W4UTO Mary Knapp
- 27 WD4AQX Ted Zipes
- 30 KG4ISO Dan Drake

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

Well Wishes

Thoughts and Prayers go out to the following:

Juanita Humbles, KE4JWK

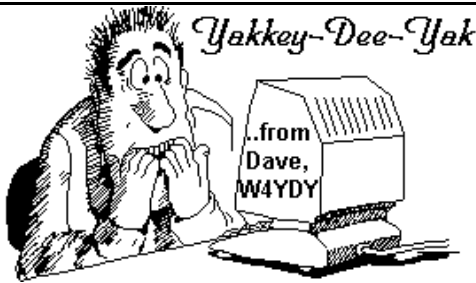
Hollis Thigpen, KC3X

Gail Manning, wife of Mac Manning, KD4AFL.



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Organizations' comments augment alarm over BPL



There was a lot of news concerning Amateur Radio during the last month but due to having to limit *Ham Chatter* to 10 pages, some did not get in.

One thing that is disturbing was a ruling by the FCC that profanity is now okay on TV and radio. Since TV and radio come into everyone's home, I think that maybe some of the foul mouths should visit the FCC higher ups that agree with the ruling in their homes with their family present and use that language! I'll bet they wouldn't like that too much. As far as I am concerned, it's just like hollowing "Fire" in a crowded theater when there is none. I always thought that the English language had plenty of adjectives to not have to use profanity to make a statement on the airways.

Amateur Radio bands are bad enough now on the lower HF bands and with this ruling, I'm sure some of the "hams" (to use the word broadly) will take advantage of the ruling. It looks like there is nothing to do now but tune to another frequency or turn the radio off. I am careful to what I listen to when I have visitors in the room with me.

I have a solution to the problem. The worst bands are 20 meters and below. Do away with voice (SSB, AM) on the lower HF bands and just use CW, PSK, RTTY, etc.! I have never seen profanity there. I know that won't happen but I had hoped the problem would improve when Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, starting clamping down. Now it looks like his hands have been tied. - W4YDY



Two organizations have filed comments with the FCC that augment previously expressed worries about potential interference from and to Broadband over Power Line (BPL) systems. Picking up on the "grave concerns" the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) <<http://www.fema.gov>> expressed over BPL December 4, the nonprofit Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Response Association (DERA) <<http://www.disasters.org>> called on the FCC to require impartial BPL field testing as well as additional public comment and full and open public hearings.

"DERA concludes that serious interference to and disruption of critical emergency communications systems in several licensed services throughout North America would almost certainly result from BPL implementation as currently proposed," DERA said. Endorsing the earlier FEMA remarks, DERA said proposed BPL systems don't just pose a risk of interference, they've already been shown to "actually cause harmful interference to licensed radio services."

Meanwhile, the Amateur Radio Research and Development Corporation (AMRAD) has filed additional test data with the FCC to support preliminary findings suggesting that BPL systems are susceptible to interference from even modest Amateur Radio HF signals. AMRAD said its newest data demonstrated that amateur operation in the test neighborhood would cause many homes to lose their Internet service.

"At least an area out to a radius of 0.51 miles from the transmitting station could have their Internet connection interrupted," AMRAD said. "Closer-in

homes would almost certainly have their Internet service interrupted."

For its RF susceptibility experiment, AMRAD used the Potomac Electric Power Company system test site. It features a mid-1960s vintage home with unshielded interior electrical wiring and overhead power lines.

AMRAD found that at a distance of just over one-half mile, data transfer ceased in the face of a 100-W signal on 3980 kHz from a mobile transmitter. Adjacent to the test property, AMRAD said data transfer ceased in all but one instance at a transmitter power of just 4 W in the BPL operating band of from 4 to 21 MHz.

The ARRL hopes to complete an independent BPL engineering study early this year. It will explore how BPL might affect HF and low-VHF amateur operation as well as how Amateur Radio operation could affect BPL systems.

In related news, BPL equipment manufacturer Amperion Inc recently announced an "industry first" by successfully testing its high-speed "Connect" system on 69 kV transmission lines. Typical BPL systems have employed medium and low-voltage lines to deliver broadband and Internet access. Amperion said its tests, performed in conjunction with American Electric Power, demonstrated multi-megabit data transmission to a distance of nearly one mile without the need for a repeater. There's more information on Amperion's Web site <<http://www.amperion.com/press.asp?pid=89>>.

Additional information about BPL and Amateur Radio is on the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/HTML/plc/>>. To support the League's efforts in this area, visit the ARRL's secure BPL Web site <<https://www.arrl.org/forms/development/donations/bpl/>>. - via *ARRL Letter Online*

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Christmas party and awards

(Continued from page 1)

Dave LeMoine, KV4CN, presented certificate to the officers of the club, Murray Merner, K4MHM, presented certificates to the New Ham Class instructors and Tom Parsons, W4TEP, presented the Volunteer Examiner certificates.



Mike Langley, KD4MTT, presenting Special Services Award plaque to Murray Merner, K4MHM, (R). Murray is holding his BARC 2003 Ham of the Year plaque.

Murray Merner, K4MHM, was named 2003 BARC Ham of the Year and he also received a second plaque for his many services to the club over the past six years. He was Contributing Editor for Ham Chatter, 1998 to 2003, Elmer and New Ham Class coordinator, 1998 to 2003, First Vice President, 1998, President, 1999 and 2000, Field Day Chairman, 2002, and coordinated several special events for W4AMC. He feels it's time for some others to get more involved in

the club and continue his work.

Dave LeMoine, KV4CN, received the OM of the Year, Bonnie Pulver, KG4CZW, received YL of the Year, John McCoy, K4KBB, received Elmer of the Year and Peter Van Houten, KG4WEZ, received New Ham of the Year. Congratulations to all.

Dave LeMoine, KV4CN, received his 2002 BARC Ham of the Year plaque and a plaque for his past two years of service as President of BARC. Receiving Certificates of Appreciation were Byron Highland, K4BMH, 2003 First Vice President, Jeff Hardee, K4RJH, 2003 Second Vice President, Taylor Millar, W4WTM, 2003 Secretary, John McCoy, K4KBB, 2003 Treasurer, Mike Langley, KD4MTT, 2003 Director, and Richard Campbell, KD4SNE, 2003 Director. Also receiving certificates were



The fellowship and outstanding food are the best part of the Brightleaf ARC Christmas party. Photo by KG4WEZ



BARC officers for 2004 - President Mike, KD4MTT; First Vice President Byron, K4MHM; Second Vice President, Dan, KG4ISO; Secretary Taylor, W4WTM, and Treasurer John, K4KBB.

Tom Parsons, W4TEP, VE Liaison, Dave Langley, W4YDY, Ham Chatter Editor and Webmaster, and Pat Williams, KG4NSC, Publicity.

Certificates were presented to Volunteer Examiners by Tom Parsons, W4TEP, VE Liaison, to Byron Highland, K4BMH, Robert A. Moore, N2USB, Dave Langley, W4YDY, Murray Merner, K4MHM, Gerry Clayton, K4IDD, Gary Gasperini, AF4XV, Dave LeMoine, KV4CN, and Hollis Thigpen, KC3X.

Certificates were presented to the New Ham Class instructors by Murray Merner, K4MHM, Class Coordinator, to John McCoy, K4KBB, Bill All, N3KKM, Bill Dawson, WA4SLC, Bernie Nobles, WA4MOK, Dave Langley, W4YDY, Gerry Clayton, K4IDD, and Dave LeMoine, KV4CN.

Next VE Session

The next Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club VE session will be held on **February 20**. Exams will be held at St. Peter's School on 5th Street and will start promptly at 6:30 PM. Tom Parsons, W4TEP, 355-2815. w4tep@arrl.net. 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 \$12.00
- ◆ Proof of Tech Plus if before 3/21/87 and doing paper upgrade to General.

Email addresses

Please send me your new addresses so I can update my records. I need the correct addresses to notify members when the latest *Ham Chatter* goes online, important notifications and update the email roster on the web site. - W4YDY

K4KBB
J & P Machine Works, Inc.



4291 US 264 East
Greenville, NC 27834
252-758-1719 Fax 758-9031

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

BRIGHTLEAF AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
P.O. Box 8387, Greenville, NC 27835

Please fill out the application completely so that the club can better serve you. License information is for statistical purposes only. (Return to Secretary or mail to above address.)

Current Call Sign _____ Previous Call Sign _____

Date _____ Birth Month _____ Day _____

Name _____ Spouse _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ + _____

Phone (_____) _____ Email _____

License Class:

_____ Novice
 _____ Technician (No Code)
 _____ Tech Plus
 _____ General
 _____ Advanced
 _____ Extra

Are you a member of?

_____ A.R.E.S.
 _____ M.A.R.S.
 Other (Please Specify)

_____ Are you an ARRL member? _____

_____ Are you a Volunteer Examiner? _____

Which of the following club activities would you be willing to help with?

_____ Programs	_____ Field Day
_____ Publicity	_____ VE Sessions
_____ Elmer sessions	_____ Training classes
_____ Club Offices	_____ Other _____

DUES:

Associate Member - (Non-Licensed)	\$ 5.00
Honorary Member	none
New Hams Age: 18yrs. or younger - (First Year)	\$ 5.00
New Hams Age: 19yrs. or older - (First Year)	\$10.00
Regular Member	\$20.00
Family Member-(Living in same household with another member)	\$ 2.00

Revised 12/01

2004 Membership Dues

It's that time of the year once again. Membership dues for BARC will be due January 1, 2003. The 2003 membership roster will be published in the April 2003 Ham Chatter. Those who have not paid their dues by March 21, 2003 will not be listed on the roster and will be removed from the Ham Chatter mailing list. Membership dues are the same as they were in 2002, and are as follows:

Regular Member	\$20.00
Family Member	\$2.00
Associate Member (Non-Licensed)	\$5.00
Honorary Member	\$0.00
New Hams: 18 and younger (1 st year)	\$5.00
New Hams: 19 and older (1 st year)	\$10.00

Please mail your dues, along with the member application form to:

Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 8387
Greenville, NC 27835

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

If anyone has any questions concerning their membership status or their dues, please call me at (252) 758-1719 or e-mail me at k4kbb@arrl.net. Thank you for your support and participation in BARC.

John McCoy, K4KBB
BARC Treasurer

Meet the Member - Dan Drake, KG4ISO

(Continued from page 1)

take the test we looked up the next test dates on the internet and found out it was being given in Wake Forrest. I know that is a long ways to drive but I was working every other weekend at the time and wouldn't be able to take the test again for a while. So we went and both passed the test in July of 2000.

"Once we got our calls, I got an ICOM 2100H and a Ringo Ranger 2 meter antenna and put it up. I remember being very nervous about talking on the radio the first time so I spent a couple of weeks listening to the nets. Finally one night about midnight (when I knew nobody would be there to answer me) I threw my call sign out and wouldn't you know it, NW4S (Jeff Wainwright, also a club member) was there. I spent a lot of time talking to Jeff about ham radio the first year and he was great. I finally learned CW and passed the General Class exam in June of 2003. With that I got a real fever for ham radio, joined the club and here I am today.

"I must brag a little, Bernie Nobles says that I have the absolute strongest signal of anybody on 75 meters. That may be because we live about 300 yards apart. I have never been complained to about interference but I figure if I did its nice to have Bernie so close by to blame it on."

Dan enjoys 2 meters and 440 for local, repeater and net use. He has several Icom 2100H transceivers for VHF and UHF and a couple of HT's. On the HF bands, he prefers 40 meter CW and 20 meter SSB. He really likes 10 meters when it is open. Dan uses an Icom 706MKIIG into a BTV5 vertical antenna. He is working on WAS. He also had some dipoles in the air. For shortwave listening, he has some HF and SW receivers.

Dan attended the 2003 Field Day in June and recently joined the club. He also operated during Hurricane Isabel at the Ayden-Grifton school shelter.

Along with his Internet site at www.qsl.net/kg4iso Dan runs a Yahoo

group on BPL and Ham Radio. He has been to the Dayton hamfest once and he would love to go back. In the past, he has done a little ham radio Satcomm stuff.

Dan has an Associate Degree in Nursing (1992) from Beaufort Community College and a Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing (2003) from ECU. He is currently in the Masters of Nursing Program at ECU. He is a Registered Nurse in Truama, Surgery, Neurosurgery ICU PCMH for the past 11 years. Currently he is perioperative clinical nurse specialist at PCMH.

Dan's wife is Kim, KG4ISP, and they have their hands full with two girls, Hannah, 20 months and Bethany, just a few weeks old. Kim is also an active member of BARC.

The club is lucky to have new members step up to the plate when asked to help out with the operation of BARC. Thanks Dan for your participation. Most of all, Dan wants people to give him ideas that they are interested in for BARC meeting programs for 2004. - W4YDY

A BPL tale of two cities



A Virginia community is preparing to go forward with plans to deploy a city-owned BPL network, while a California city has decided against BPL

for its own municipal broadband system.

The city council in Lompoc, California <<http://www.cityoflompoc.com/>>--a community of some 42,000--opted December 16 to go with a wireless and fiber optic cable-based broadband network, rejecting BPL and other possible options. ARRL Santa Barbara Section Technical Coordinator Paul Andreasen, K1JAN, said he and other members of the local Amateur Radio community lobbied hard to ensure that Lompoc would not pick BPL.

After contacting Lompoc Mayor Dick DeWesse to spell out the downside of BPL, Andreasen said he subsequently received assurances from City Manager

Gary Keefe that Lompoc's consultants would not entertain technology that would radiate in the HF/low-VHF spectrum. The report from McKibben Consulting noted the "ongoing controversy" about BPL and cited a 2003 British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) study that, McKibben said, "made it clear that there is very good reason to be concerned about RF interference." The consultant concluded that BPL's advantages failed to outweigh its disadvantages.

The Washington, DC, suburb of Manassas, Virginia, meanwhile, indicates it will go ahead this month with plans to inaugurate BPL service in four subdivisions--a total of some 2100 homes. Manassas--with a population of nearly 35,000--hopes to be the first community in the US to deploy BPL citywide.

Amateurs in the Manassas vicinity have pointed to FEMA's "grave concerns" that BPL could interfere with HF communications systems critical to national security and public safety. They've

also cited Japan's banning of BPL deployment in the wake of Amateur Radio pressure as well as the BBC study, where the BPL system used the same Main.net technology Manassas plans to employ.

City officials seem unimpressed. "Nobody has proven it's a problem," City Councilman Ulysses X. White told Potomac News <<http://www.potomacnews.com/>>. "If it is a problem, then we re-evaluate it. There's no reason not to go forward with it." The same article quotes City Utilities Director Allen Todd, W4VUB, as saying that the city will monitor the system and rectify any problems that crop up. No field testing for RF interference took place during the system's pilot program.

Potomac News also quoted ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, saying that the risk of disrupting worldwide and emergency communications for BPL is shortsighted and, as FEMA already has noted, carries potential national security implications. - via ARRL Letter Online

BARC Monthly Minutes - December 2003

BARC Monthly Meeting Minutes
BARC Christmas Party
Tuesday, December 9, 2003
6:30 pm at the VFW Hall

Dave LeMoine, KV4CN, welcomed everyone, and the food was blessed.

FOOD, FOOD, AND MORE FOOD
Everyone got in line for the food, and it was all good. Those delicious desserts were great also. Fifty-two people were counted in the food line.

BUSINESS MEETING

It was announced that the North Pole Network will take place on Dec. 19th at 1:00 p.m. at the hospital.

The Boy Scout merit badge program will take place on Jan. 24th and 31st. Dave also mentioned the need for an associate editor for the Ham Chatter plus a Ham Class coordinator.

AWARDS PRESENTATIONS Mike Langley, KD4MTT, gave the history of

ham radio, how we recruit new Hams, training classes, etc. Murray Merner, K4MHM, told the history of the training classes, and how the classes are being held presently. Murray presented certificates to instructors of the classes including John McCoy, Gerry Clayton, Bill Dawson, Bernie Nobles, Dave LeMoine, and Dave Langley.

Tom Parsons was recognized for coordinating all the testing. Tom gave certificates to the VE's that helped with the testing, and these included Hollis Thigpen, Dave LeMoine, Gerry Clayton, Murray Merner, Dave Langley, Byron Highland, and Robert Moore.

Board Members were awarded certificates as follows: Dave LeMoine, President, Byron Highland, 1st Vice President, Jeff Hardee, 2nd Vice President, John McCoy, Treasurer, Taylor Millar, Secretary, Richard Campbell, Board Member, Dave Langley, Ham Chatter and Web Editor, Pat Williams, Public Relations, Richard Campbell, Field Day Chairman.

The Old Man of the Year award was awarded to Dave LeMoine, the Young

Lady of the Year award went to Bonnie Pulver, the New Ham of the Year was awarded to Peter Van Houten, the Elmer of the Year went to John McCoy.

The Ham of the Year award was awarded to Murray Merner, plus an Outstanding Service award considering all the things that he has done for the club.

OFFICERS FOR 2004 were recognized as follows: Mike Langley, KD4MTT, President, Byron Highland, K4BMH, 1st Vice President, Dan Drake, KG4ISO, 2nd Vice President, Taylor Millar, W4WTM, Secretary, John McCoy, K4KBB, Treasurer.

BOARD MEETING: The next board Meeting will be on December 30th at 7:30 pm at Mike's Marine on Highway 33 east. All members are invited to all board meetings.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business, the meeting adjourned about 8:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Taylor Millar, W4WTM

BARC Board Minutes - December 2003

BARC Board Meeting: December 30, 2003

Attending: Mike Langley, KD4MTT; Dave LeMoine, KV4CN; John McCoy, K4KBB; Pat Williams, KG4NSC; Dave Langley, W4YDY; Jeff Hardee, K4RJH; Dan Drake, KG4ISO; Taylor Millar, W4WTM.

PRESIDENT: Mike Langley called the meeting to order. He asked about the letter of appreciation going to the Kinston Ham Fest. Taylor said the letter was ready to go as soon as he could get an address from Byron Highland. Mike also mentioned the cancellation of the North Pole Network due to a problem at the hospital. It was reported that the application and check have gone in to the Dogwood Festival for that upcoming event. Special Olympics is coming in March, and Doug Ferris will be helping coordinate this event.

SECRETARY REPORT: Taylor Millar reported the success of the Christmas Party. The food was great, and the people were great. Taylor is to find out the availability and cost of another Holland Grill for the upcoming spring raffle.

TREASURER'S REPORT: John McCoy reported funds balance at year end. He also reported that 2004 dues are now due. He said that the BARC patches are \$ 2.00 each or 3 for \$ 5.00. He also mentioned the new club budget due to be completed by February.

HEALTH AND WELFARE: It was mentioned that Hollis Thigpin has been under the weather.

HAM CHATTER: Dave Langley, W4YDY, reported about the cost of putting out the Ham Chatter, and about how Xerox was printing this for us.

NEW BUSINESS: The next VE Session of testing will be Friday night, Feb. 3rd. A possible Ham Class Coordinator was discussed.

Elmer training for the coming year was also discussed. The May 1st Boy Scout Camporee along with the NCQSO Party planned for VOA on Sunday, Feb. 29th from noon until 10:00 P.M. were discussed. Getting access to the VOA site was also discussed.

The BARC Dues for 2004 are due on January 1st.

PROGRAMS: Dan Drake, KG4ISO, presented a list of possible future programs for our club meetings. Broadband Over Power Lines (BPL) is planned for our next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business, the meeting adjourned about 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Taylor Millar, W4WTM

ARRL Section Manager represents Ham Radio in State Senate BPL inquiry

ARRL Western Washington Section Manager Ed Bruette, N7NVP, testified December 9 before the Washington Senate Technology and Communications Committee during an informational inquiry on Broadband over Power Line (BPL). The committee invited Bruette to speak after Gloria Sharp, WA7GYD, of Ellensburg, contacted a senior committee staffer to ask if Amateur Radio would be represented at the hearing. As a result, the panel added Bruette to the list of spokespersons.

"My presentation outlined the Part 15 device limitations, the interference issues both to and from Amateur Radio, BPL trials in Europe and Japan, and the other users of the HF and VHF spectrum who will be impacted by interference by BPL," Bruette said in summing up his 15-minute presentation. "I included the first 37 seconds of the BPL video made by ARRL Lab Manager Ed Hare, W1RFI, along with an NTIA spectrum allocation chart that I modified to show the potential loss of spectrum."

Bruette followed remarks by two industry representatives. He said the committee's feedback was positive, as was the reaction from the four radio amateurs in the audience.

Bruette said he was surprised to hear one industry representative characterize power lines as antennas. He also said he was pleased to learn that the Chelan County Public Utility District had received letters from local hams expressing concern about BPL. - *via ARRL Letter Online*

New Morse Code symbol

(Continued from page 2)

"No one wanted to disturb something with more than 150 years of history," said ARRL Technical Relations Manager Paul Rinaldo, W4RI.

To keep up with the times, however, the IARU proposed adding a new character--the commercial "at" or @ symbol--to permit sending e-mail addresses in Morse code. The draft now recommendation proposes using the letters A and C run together (.-.-) to represent the @ symbol.

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@qsl.net**

For Sale:

Mosley Classic 33 \$100. The center part of the reflector was bent in hurricane Floyd. I worked on it and got it as straight as I could.

Bill Dawson, WA4SLC, 946-4760 or dawsonw@mail.ecu.edu.

For Sale:

Hygain TH-6 tri-band beam. \$200
Hassell Bailey, W4OZV, 756-4471 or hbb929@aol.com

High school program yields dozens of new hams

An program of Amateur Radio integrated into the physics curriculum at central Pennsylvania's Trinity High School has yielded more than four dozen new hams. The school is home to the Trinity High School Radio Club, KB3JAG, which now has 49 new members with call signs starting at KB3KLS and running through KB3KNO. Harrisburg Radio Amateurs Club President Pete DeVolpi, K3PD, credits the club's VE team, his "train the trainer" program and "a very good teacher named Sean Barnes, N3JQ" for the successful outcome. DeVolpi says the Harrisburg Radio Amateurs Club <<http://hrac.tripod.com>>, an ARRL special service club, has adopted a proactive stance in getting new blood into Amateur Radio. He felt it would be more productive to teach a teacher about the hobby, then let the teacher train the students each year. According to Barnes, physics and Amateur Radio integrate well. The school's radio club, which Barnes began, offers underclass students an opportunity to get exposure to the hobby before attending his physics class. Teachers interested in his curriculum may contact him via e-mail <seanbarnespo@aol.com>. - *via ARRL Letter Online*

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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.
- ◆ 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, Tuesday, 2100 on 145.21 MHz
- ◆ Carteret County ARS (CCARS) Emergency Net, Tuesdays, 1930 on the Newport 145.45 (-) 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
- ◆ 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 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Jan 13 **Regular Meeting**
 Jan 24-25 CQ WW CW 160M Contest
 Jan 24-25 ARRL January VHF SS
 Jan 27 **Board Meeting**
 Jan 31 **Ham Chatter Deadline**
 Feb 10 **Regular Meeting**
 Feb 14 CQ/RJ WPX RTTY Contest
 Feb 20 VE Session
 Feb 21 ARRL CW DX Contest
 Feb 24 **Board Meeting**
 Feb 28 **Ham Chatter Deadline**
 Feb 28-29 CQ WW SSB 160M Contest

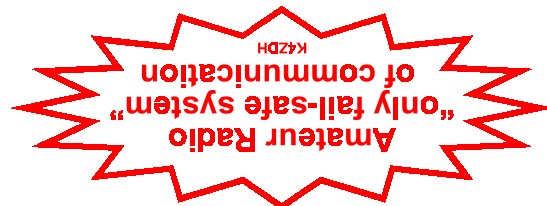
Mar 6-7 ARRL SSB DX Contest
 Mar 9 **Regular Meeting**
 Mar 21 Down East Hamfest - Kinston
 Mar 27 CQ WW SSB WPX Contest
 Mar 30 **Board Meeting**
 Apr 3 **Ham Chatter Deadline**
 Apr 4 RARSFest – Raleigh
 Apr 13 Regular Meeting
 Apr 16 VE Session
 Apr 27 **Board Meeting**

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

Printing courtesy of Xerox



January 2004
Next Meeting
January 13

To:



PO Box 8387
 Greenville, NC 27835

Ham Chatter