

Volume 38 Issue 10

An Official BARC, W4AMC, Publication

October 2004

Editor, Dave Langley, W4YDY

Email: w4amc@qsl.net

## FCC poised to act on BPL Report and Order

The FCC Office of Engineering and Technology (OET) will present a draft broadband over power line (BPL) Report and Order to the full Commission when it meets October 14, the ARRL has learned. More than 6100 comments have been filed on the topic since the FCC released its initial Notice of Inquiry in the proceeding, ET Docket 03-104, in April 2003 and a subsequent Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM), ET Docket 04-37, in February of this year. The ARRL so far on this round has taken its concerns regarding Amateur Radio and BPL to three of the Commission's five members. In a meeting this week with FCC Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein, an ARRL delegation again asserted that the FCC is pushing the proceeding to a predetermined conclusion with little regard for technical issues.

"Because the FCC has been unwilling to release for public review the results of its own tests and observations of BPL systems, the ARRL has no confidence that the draft Report and Order will be based on sound engineering and believes the rush to adoption is unwarranted and premature," ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, said in a follow-up letter to Adelstein. The letter reiterated the League's key points that, it said, "represent the minimum protection" that should be incorporated into the BPL Report and Order prior to Commission adoption.

"Without adequate safeguards, the deployment of BPL systems will result in the pollution and degradation of the unique natural resource of the highfrequency radio spectrum," Sumner said.

The League argued that the R&O include a reduction in the radiated

emission limit. The ARRL wants the limit set 30 dB below current Part 15 requirements, which, it says, were established with narrowband point-source radiators in mind. "The record in this proceeding clearly establishes that BPL is not a point-source radiator," the ARRL's letter asserted.

The ARRL pointed out that the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) has concluded that at the current Part 15 limit, interference is "likely" to receivers in land vehicles 75 meters from BPL-connected power lines and to fixed stations 460 meters from such power lines.

"Given the number of amateur stations and the fact that they almost invariably are located near power lines, the areas of potential interference at the existing Part 15 limit are clearly too large to permit case-by-case resolution of interference issues," Sumner said. "Based on experience with the very limited test deployments of BPL systems to date, notably in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Southern Wake County, North Carolina, and Cottonwood, Arizona," the ARRL told Adelstein, "widespread BPL deployment at the existing Part 15 radiated emission limit will result in an unmanageable incidence of interference."

The only way to reduce these areas of potential interference is to reduce the radiated emission limit, the ARRL maintained. Mandatory "notching" of the amateur bands by 30 dB would reduce the probability of interference to amateur stations sufficiently that the remaining interference cases might be resolved on a case-by-case basis. "However," the League added, "such notching would not solve the problem for other radio ser-

# Next Meeting October 12

The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club will have its next regular meeting on October 12 at 7:30 PM at VFW Post Home 7032 at 1108 Mumford Road in Greenville. The program will be antenna matching by Tom McLaughlin, KE4NQP. All members, families and guests are invited to attend.

The next board meeting is set for October 26 at 7:30 PM. The meeting is open to all members.

vices."

The ARRL contingent, which included Sumner, ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, and ARRL Chief Technology Officer Paul Rinaldo, W4RI, decried the FCC's lack of response to issues Sumner raised two months ago regarding a North Carolina Amateur Radio interference complaint. The ARRL representatives carried copies of correspondence questioning a July OET report that essentially gave the Progress Energy Corp BPL field trial a clean bill of health despite continued interference on amateur frequencies.

The League delegation suggested to Adelstein that the OET has swept the North Carolina BPL interference case under the rug and has attempted to discount interference issues in general while overstating the FCC's ability to address them.

The ARRL also has stressed other points in its meetings with Commission members. Read more at arrl.org. - *via* ARRL Letter Online 9/24/04

## President's Corner - Mike KD4MTT

It's time again for another installment of "Mikey Moments", or as it is more commonly known, the Presidents Corner.

Several things on the agenda for the month of October. Please try to participate whenever possible:

47th Jamboree on the Air - 16-17 October 2004 - JOTA is an annual event in which about 500,000 Scouts and Guides all over the world make contact with each other by means of amateur radio. It is a real Jamboree during which Scouting experiences are exchanged and ideas are shared, thus contributing to the world brotherhood of Scouting The JOTA is a world-wide event. (from www.scout.org)

The Fall 2004 Technician License Course, Sponsored by BARC, will begin on October 9th at the Sheppard Memorial 0900 (9 AM for civilians) and run until noon. Please spread the work about the class and invite people to attend. Also, if you have a chance, stop by the class and meet the participants. Put a face on Ham

The second Sunday in October (10/10), Maysville, North Carolina is the place to be. The Maysville Hamfest is the event. Free admission, as well as tailgating. There are great hourly door prizes, as well as crafts for the women, and some great food can also be found. (from www. eham.net) Located in the park just of Route 17. Look for the signs near Hardees.

Throw in contests such as the PSK Rumble, California OSO Party and

Library in Greenville. Classes begin at the Oceania DX SSB contest and you can see that there is plenty to keep our interests up and our skills sharp. Throw in the possibility of more storm traffic – we are only half way through hurricane season - and we really have enough to keep us busy.

> Thanks to all who have helped demonstrate our great hobby. Whether it was Elmering, showing off your rig to the neighbor, advertising an event, helping with repeaters or planning and participating in emergency activities, the time you spend is important.

> I look forward to seeing you at the next meeting on October 12th. 73's

*Mike*, KD4MTT

## Jamboree On The Air is October 16-17



The 47th Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) takes place October 16-Details on 17. JOTA also appear

in September QST, page 104. JOTA is an annual event in which Boy and Girl Scouts and Guides from all over the world speak to each other via Amateur Radio to share experiences and ideas. Since 1958, when the first Jamboree-onthe-Air was held, millions of Scouts have become acquainted through this event.

Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club members birthdays in October.

1 KE4TZN John Johnson 22 N4LNT Tom Tomlinson 28 K4BMH Byron Highland 31 KG4WEW Terry Monday Please let me know of any additions or

corrections. - W4YDY

Amateur Radio clubs and individual licensees make it possible for Scouts to get on the air, and your club is invited to be a part of JOTA 2004. If your club is planning a JOTA activity, register it on the ARRL Youth Skeds Database page. This page lets youngsters and parents to search for scheduled on air activities in which to participate. You also can contact your local Boy Scouts of America Council and let them know that you're planning a JOTA activity. With assistance from ARRL HQ staff members, Education and Technology Program Coordinator Mark Spencer, WA8SME, will operate Maxim Memorial Station W1AW on Saturday, October 16, for JOTA. "This year the focus will be on achieving the radio merit

Well Wishes

Thoughts and Prayers go out to the following:

Jeff Hardee, K4RJF Gail Manning, wife of Mac Manning, KD4AFL

Bernice Turnage, WA4SLD

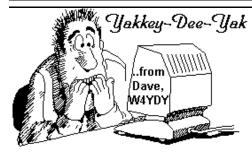
Please inform Bryon Highland, K4BMH, of any changes.

Well

badge," he noted. Spencer has set up a program that should allow Scouts participating at W1AW to walk away from the JOTA experience with the merit badge, "with some preparation and a little homework on the Scout's part," he added. If you hear W1AW or any other participating JOTA stations on the air, be sure to make a contact--and don't forget to QSL. - via ARRL

### In This Issue BPL Report and Order soon 1 President's Corner 2 **JOTA** 2 BARC officer elections for 2005 3 4 BARC Technician License Course KC3X CW award 4 Next BARC VE Session - October 15 4 NC BPL field trail decommissioned 5 FCC warns trucking firms 5 **BARC** Meeting Minutes 6 **BARC Board Minutes** 6 7 Microsat model on display 7 40 meter intruder disappears 7 Ham Ads Calendar of Events B

October 2004 PAGE 2



There are several Amateur Radio activities that will keep BARC member busy for the remainder of the year. Hopefully, none of those will be storms! North Carolina has been lucky so far this year and we all hope it continues. As everyone knows, it has been very bad for Florida.

The new Technician license class will be held at the Sheppard Memorial Library this fall. The schedule is on page 4 of this newsletter. Also on October 10, the Maysville Hamfest will be held. The 47th Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) takes place October 16-17. Officers will be elected in November and the Benson Hamfest is November 21. VE Sessions will be held October 15 and December 17 with a special session on December 11 for the Technician Class. Anyone may take exams at any of the sessions.

Speaking of hurricanes, three of the hurricanes, Charley, Frances and Jeanne, all passed over one county, Polk, in Florida, the first time that has ever happened. My parents lived there in the 1960s about 6 miles North of Lakeland. That was close enough for that location to be inside the eye wall on all three storms. Also, looking at the map, those familiar with the Cypress Gardens area will see that the center of the eyes all passed within 5 miles of that area. The park was slated for a grand reopening again in the Fall after closing April 13, 2003. According to their web site, they still planned to open in November after several million dollars of damage. Everyone here hopes we don't see three more hurricanes, much less in a six week span! - W4YDY

## <sup>Դեkkey-Դee-Դեk</sup> BARC Nominees for 2005

Nominees for BARC Officers for 2005 were presented at the September meeting by the nominating committee. One change was accepted at the September board meeting when Taylor Millar, W4WTM, requested his name to be withdrawn from the First Vice President's position. He did accept the Director position and Byron Highland, K4BMH, accepted the First Vice President's position which he now occupies.

The nominees are:

President; Mike Langley, KD4MTT (I) First VP; Byron Highland, K4BMH (I)

Second VP; Dan Drake, KG4ISO (I) Secretary; Richard Cox, KI4CRD Treasurer; Terry Monday, KI4WEW Director; John McCoy, K4KBB Director; Taylor Millar, W4WTM

Final voting will be at the November meeting. Absentee ballots may be requested at the October meeting or contacting someone on the nominating committee.

The nominating committee included Bernie Noble, WA4MOK, Mike Langley, K4MTT, John McCoy, K4KBB, and Dave Langley, W4YDY.

## Saudi Arabia's HZ1AB is history



The HZ1AB club station in Saudi Arabia now is history. Originally the United States Military Train-

ing Mission station and more recently known as the Dhahran Amateur Radio Club, HZ1AB was a well-known DX call sign for almost six decades. Club Secretary Thomas Carlsson, SM0CXU/AB5CQ, said this week that new station license requirements in Saudi Arabia made it necessary to shut down the station, and the call sign has been reissued

to a Saudi national. OSL manager Leo Fry, K8PYD, has t h e HZ1AB logs to handle any late QSL requests. Earlier this vear. Saudi Arabia licensed 18 new Amateur Radio opera-Details tors.

about licensing there are available on the Saudi Arabia Communications and Information Technology Commission Web site.--The Daily DX and Thomas Carlsson, SM0CXU/AB0CQ (Oct 1, 2004)

Editor's note: Below is a QSL card I received from HZ1AB (From the Largest Beach in the World) for a 15 meter contact September 10, 1958. Also contacted them on 20 meters in 2000 and 10 meters in 1957 and 2002. Interesting note; it cost them a 4 cent stamp to send it to me in 1958. - W4YDY



PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE BRIGHTLEAF ARC, P. O. BOX 8387, GREENVILLE, NC 27835 NON COPYRIGHT MATERIAL CONTAINED HEREIN MAY BE REPRINTED WITHOUT PRIOR PERMISSION WITH CREDIT GIVEN TO THIS PUBLICATION PRESIDENT - MIKE LANGLEY, KD4MTT, 752-4356 FIRST V. PRESIDENT - BYRON HIGHLAND, K4BMH, 753-2895 SECOND V. PRESIDENT - DAN DRAKE, KG4ISO, 717-2605 SECRETARY - TAYLOR MILLAR, KG4SNC, 756-2192 TREASURER - JOHN McCOY, K4KBB, 758-1719 BOARD MEMBER - DAVID LEMOINE, KV4CN, 353-8523 BOARD MEMBER - RICHARD CAMPBELL, KG4SNE, 758-1244 PUBLIC RELATIONS - PAT WILLIAMS, KG4NSC, 752-9281 W4AMC/W4VOA TRUSTEE, TOM PARSONS, W4TEP, 355-2815 VE LAISION, TOM PARSONS, W4TEP, 355-2815 HAM CHATTER & WEB SITE EDITOR - DAVE LANGLEY, W4YDY, 321-2525 EMAIL ADDRESSES ON BARC WEB SITE OPINIONS BY WRITERS MAY NOT NECESSARILY BE THAT OF THE BARC. CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTABLE.

October 2004 PAGE 3

## **Technician License Course by BARC**

Text: Now You're Talking (5th edition) Class time:

Start 9:15 a.m. End: around 12:00

Course Coordinator: Robert Moore Phone (252) 524 4003 Email n4usb@earthlink.net

**Location: Sheppard Memorial Library** 

Oct 9 Orientation - Robert Moore, **N4USB** 

Oct 12 Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club (BARC) meeting 7:30 VFW building students welcome

Oct 16 Class 1

Chapter 7 Basic Communications Electronics - Murray Merner, K4MHM Chapter 2 Methods of Communication (pages 2.1 to 2.4) – same

Oct 30 Class 2

Chapter 8 Good Engineering Practices (pages 8.1 thru 8.13) - John McCoy K4KBB

Chapter 3 Radio Phenomena - Bill All, N3KKM

Chapter 2 Methods of Communication (pages 2.7 to end) - Bill Dawson, **WA4SLC** 

Chapter 9 Special Operations - same

BARC meeting - students Nov 9 welcome

Nov 13 Class 3

Chapter 8 Good Engineering Practices (pages 8.13 to end) – Bernie Nobles, **WA4MOK** 

Nov 20 Class 4

Chapter 10 Electrical, Antenna Structure and RF Safety - Dave Langley, W4YDY Chapter 1 Federal Communication Commission Rules - Gerry Clayton, K4IDD Chapter 2 Method of Communication (pages 2.5 to 2.7) - same

Class 5 Dec 4

Chapter 4 Station Licensee Duties -Dave LeMoine, KV4CN

Chapter 5 Control Operator Duties same

Chapter 6 Good Operating Practices same

Dec 11 License Exam

Volunteer Examiners Coordinated by Tom Parsons, W4TEP

## **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

## Hollis did it again!



On October 3, 2004, BARC member Hollis Thigpen, KC3X, completed working all 3077 counties in the United States on CW. But that was not all. The stations he worked were all mobile! But he's not finished yet. Since he has worked all counties six times, he is now well on his way to finishing up the seventh time. Congratulations Hollis.

## Next VE Session

The next Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club VE session will be held on October 15. 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.

K4KBB

## For All Your Battery Needs...

- Auto/Truck Camcorders
- Emergency Lighting Power Back Ups
- Laptops/Computers
- Lawn & Garden
- Cameras Cell Phones
- · Marine/RV
- Cordless Phones Motorcycle
- Security Alarms
- Two-Way Radios
- Watches
- and 1000's more...

## Greenville • 252-353-8143 740 SE. Greenville Blvd. Ste 500A

Located in Pirates Pointe (Next to McAlister's)

Hours: M/F: 8-7 Sat: 9-5

www.batteriesplus.com

BatteriesPlus. 🕂 merica's Battery Experts



October 2004 PAGE 4

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

Sep Machine Works, Che

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

## North Carolina utility decommissioning BPL field trail

Progress Energy Corporation (PEC) this week shut down its BPL field trial in the Raleigh, North Carolina, area and began removing system hardware. The utility's action came just as local amateur Tom Brown, N4TAB, had filed a "Response and Further Complaint" about the system. His filing disputes an FCC determination this summer that PEC's BPL system complied with Part 15 rules-with notched BPL emissions averaging 24 dB below Part 15 emission limits--and that ham band notching was "effective." Brown, who has an extensive background in RF engineering, says the FCC's findings have nothing to do with defining--or excusing--harmful interference.

"I can find no reference that states that equipment operating under Part 15 with an emission level below some specified value is defined as being 'non interfering," Brown told Bruce Franca of the FCC's Office of Engineering and Technology. Franca's July 22 report characterized the 24 dB average notch depths as "sufficient to eliminate any signals that would be deemed capable of causing harmful interference, including interference to amateur operations."

Brown disagreed. "This is a subjective leap of judgment that is unsupported under Part 15 rules and without precedent," he responded. BPL proponents have touted the FCC's conclusions in the Progress Energy field trials to debunk findings by the ARRL and others that the technology can and does generate harmful interference. The ARRL also took issue with certain claims Franca made in his July 22 letter, but the Commission has yet to respond.

Brown, who also asked the FCC to shut down the system, now has gotten his wish. The utility announced nearly two months ago that it had "successfully" completed Phase 2 of its BPL trial and would be terminating the operation. At the same time, Progress indicated that it "does not have plans for a large-scale commercial rollout of BPL in the company's service territories." PEC has since backed away from that statement and says it has not ruled out BPL.

Speaking at the United Power Line Council (UPLC) BPL conference in mid-September, PEC's Matt Oja said that that while the utility had worked with local amateurs to successfully quell interference, the amateurs kept raising the bar until Progress had to put its foot down. Even after the FCC study that essentially gave the system a clean bill of health, Oja said, the amateurs still were unhappy.

Oja suggested that radio amateurs would never be happy about BPL, and he advised utilities to simply move forward with their BPL programs.

Responding to Oja's comments-as reported in the newsletter BPL Today-another amateur directly involved in the Progress Energy BPL field trials, Gary Pearce, KN4AQ, offered a somewhat different version of events.

"The only bar Progress Energy and Amperion need to meet is the one set by Part 15," Pearce said. "No harmful interference to licensed services." Amperion, PEC's BPL partner, ultimately was only partially successful in "notching" amateur frequencies out of its BPL sys-

tem, Pearce noted, and interfering signals remained even after Progress announced it was ending its BPL field trial. Pearce said the utility gave the amateur community "no confidence in their ability to get it right in any reasonable time frame."

Amperion Marketing Vice President Jeff Tolnar told the same BPL conference that "all ARRL complaints have been mitigated and/or found to be invalid "

Franca, who also addressed the UPLC BPL convention, was quoted this week in USA Today as saying that the FCC has tried to come up with rules to ensure BPL can be deployed and that licensed radio operators are protected. But, the article by Paul Davidson continued: "Banning power companies from hamradio bands outright could reduce the download speeds of the high-speed Internet service or limit the number of customers who could be served. Franca savs."

A copy of Brown's filing also went to FCC Chairman Michael K Powell's Legal Assistant Sheryl Wilkerson, with whom ARRL officials met this week on the BPL proceeding, ET Docket 04-37. ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, said that one of Wilkerson's "many misconceptions" was that actions such as notching by BPL systems to resolve interference have been successful.

The FCC is expected to consider a draft Report and Order in the BPL proceeding when the full Commission meets Thursday, October 14.--Anthony E. "Goody" Good, K3NG, provided information for this report. - Via ARRL

## FCC warns more trucking companies about unlicensed 10 meter operations



The FCC

more trucking companies asking them to respond to allegations that their drivers may have transmitted illegally on the 10-meter amateur band. The alleged violations, based on "information before the Commission" as opposed to FCC monitoring, are said to have occurred in North Carolina, Pennsylvania and California.

"While many truckers use Citizens Band radio equipment, please be

advised that operation of radio transmitting equipment without a license is a violation of Section 301 of the Communications Act of 1934," FCC Special Counsel for Enforcement Riley Hollingsworth wrote the five firms in late August. The letters were made public September 18. Hollingsworth warned that violators, if caught and convicted, are subject to fines or prison time as well as seizure of their equipment.

In three of the cases, the frequency involved was 28.085 MHz--in the

CW band--while the other two cases cited transmissions on 28.215 MHz and 28.315 MHz. Hollingsworth asked Teaberry Trucking LLC, United Van Lines, Dowell Express Inc, Con-Way (CWX) Trucking and K&K Cartage to contact him to discuss the matter.

In general, trucking company and courier services have responded promptly and positively to similar FCC warnings.

For more information, see the ARRL Letter Online 9/24/04.

October 2004 PAGE 5

## **BARC Monthly Minutes - September 2004**

BARC Monthly Meeting 09-14-2004 VFW Hall - Mumford Road

Mike Langley, KD4MTT, Club President, thanked everyone for coming tonight as the sign-up book was passed around to the membership. Everyone introduced themselves with their name, call letters, and their town.

The club meeting minutes published in the Ham Chatter were approved.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Taylor,
W4WTM, reported receiving the newsletters from both the Greensboro and Kinston clubs.

TREASURER'S REPORT: John, K4KBB, reported the expenses and income for the month plus gave total balances on hand in the bank account. The also mentioned paying the club insurance, and paying for the new power pole crimper.

**HEALTH AND WELFARE:** Pat, KG4NSC, was asked to report on Jeff. He said that Jeff Hardee was being transferred to a Rocky Mount hospital that specializes in heeling.

They told him that he should be home within about three weeks.

**EQUIPMENT:** Mike, KD4MTT, said that we are still trying to put together a list of equipment needs for the club. He

said that he would publish this list in the Ham Chatter with the prices so this could be voted on at the next meeting.

<u>PUBLICITY:</u> Pat, KG4NSC, reported that a notice would be going out about the Technician Class as we get closer to October. He also mentioned putting our literature stand up at the County Fair as we have done in the past.

ARES: Doug Ferris, K4ROK, asked for everyone to sign up for ARES who has not signed up to be an ARES member. Mike reported that the 09 repeater was back up ready for use without the normal ID. He said to announce the repeater as W4GDF Repeater when using it. He said to go back to 09 for the Monday night nets. Bernie Nobles, WA4MOK, told about the work being done on the 35 repeater. He also talked about ARES being activated during Hurricane Charlie. He also told about the activation during Hurricane Frances in the Western Branch in Conover, NC. Bernie also talked about the upcoming SET in October. .

Mike, KD4MTT, gave recent hurricane reports as to speed, direction, our chances of getting hit, etc. He mentioned that we may be needed to help if called upon, and as Hams we must be ready to help locally or possibly help in other areas.

Hurricane Watch Net frequency is

14.325

<u>VE SESSIONS:</u> Tom Parsons, W4TEP, announced the next VE Session will be held on October 15th at St. Peters School on 5<sup>th</sup> Street.

<u>**OLD BUSINESS**</u>: The new Ham Class will be starting on October 9<sup>th</sup>, and be held at the Sheppard Library. A sheet was passed around for anyone interested in Elmer Sessions to sign up.

NEW BUSINESS: A meeting of the nominating committee was held and the slate of officers for next year are as follows. Mike Langley to serve his second year as president, Richard Cox for Secretary, Terry Monday for Treasurer, Byron Highland for 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, and Taylor Millar for Director were some of the nominations.

**PROGRAM:** Tonight's program, Digital Modes of Communication, was presented by Dan Drake, KG4ISO. His knowledge of the digital modes was very informative to all. Dan went into detail on how each type of digital communication works. It was a great presentation.

**ADJOURNMENT:** With no further business, the meeting adjourned about 8:56 p.m.

Respectively submitted,
Taylor Millar, W4WTM

## **BARC Board Minutes - September 2004**

BARC Board Meeting Minutes 09-28-2004

Marks Marine, Hwy #33 Grimesland, NC

The meeting was called to order by Mike Langley, KD4MTT, Club President. He also welcomed everyone, and asked for reports from board members.

TREASURER'S REPORT: John McCoy, K4KBB, gave the balance in the club bank account.

<u>PUBLICITY:</u> Pat Williams, KG4NSC, reported an upcoming interview with Amanda Ross with WITN-TV to publicize the October Ham class.

**HEALTH & WELFARE:** It was reported that Jeff Hardee is still in the hospital in Rocky Mount doing good, and looking at a possible October 17<sup>th</sup> release date.

ARES: ® Byron Highland, K4BMH, reported that the Eastern Branch was activated briefly during the last storm. The county EOC needs a new computer. The Diabetes walk is scheduled for October at the fairgrounds. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in November will be the ARES meeting in Columbia for Areas 1 & 2.

**HAM CHATTER:** Dave Langley, W4YDY, reported on the cost of mailings, weight of some of the papers used for printing, and cutting from 10 pages to 8.

**OLD BUSINESS:** The new Ham Class is scheduled, and new Elmer Sessions are planned.

### **NEW BUSINESS: .**

Mike reported that repeater 09 is back up and working except for the auto identification. The 35 repeater is in the process

of being repaired.

Mike also mentioned that the nominating committee has a slate of officers for next year, and these will be announced to the club...

<u>VE SESSIONS</u>: The next VE session will be October 15<sup>th</sup> at St. Peters Church. The VE special session for the new ham class will be Dec. 11th.

**ADJOURNMENT:** With no further business, the meeting adjourned at about 8:45 p.m.

Respectively submitted

Taylor Millar, W4WTM Secretary

Note: ® ARES is a registered trademark of ARRL.

PAGE 6 October 2004

## Amateur microsat model on display at Smithsonian

AMSAT's Perry Klein, W3PK, reports that the Smithsonian National Museum of American History in Washington, DC, has put the microsat mechanical test model on display, just in time for AM-SAT's 35th anniversary celebration and its Symposium and Annual Meeting October 8-13. "They suspended it from the ceiling outside the NN3SI Smithsonian Amateur Radio Club station, located at 'The Information Age' exhibit on the first floor, west end of the American History Museum," Klein said. "It's been a number of years since an OSCAR satellite has been on continuous display at the Smithsonian." An OSCAR 1 model was in the Hall of Satellites at the National Air and Space Museum for several years, Klein notes, although it's now in storage. But, OSCAR 1 and PCSat models currently are being readied for display at the Air and Space Museum's Udvar-Hazy Center near Dulles Airport. The center's space exhibit hangar is expected to open soon. - via ARRL

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 Ham Chatter, PO Box 8387. Greenville, NC 27835, ATTN: Dave Langley or email to: w4vdv@gsl.net

For Sale: Yaesu FT 840, MFJ power supply, MFJ tuner, Yaesu speaker with limiters, Vertical antenna, dipole antennas and coax cables. Asking \$600 or will trade for small boat. Equipment is in mint condition in original boxes: rarely used. Robert C. Forbes, KC4AGU, PO Box 16, Macclesfield, NC 27852.

Ph: (252) 827-5175.

Old but working TS-520 & For Sale: FT-101. Sell or trade for middle aged computer stuff. David Gaytko, WD4KPD, 252-946-6393

For Sale: Icom IC-745 Price \$400 negotiable. Bill Dawson, WA4SLC, 946-4760 or dawsonw@mail.ecu.edu.

## "Intruder signal" on 40 meters disappears

amateurs in the western US and Canada org>. - Via ARRL had reported hearing the signal over a period of a few weeks. The FCC's High Frequency Direction Finding Facility in Maryland, which had narrowed down the sig- DX operations nal's source as somewhere east of Prescott. the day and evening watches on September 16. Earlier FCC monitoring had indicated the "buzz" was centered on 7238.1 kHz with a bandwidth of about 1 kHz and consisted of a series of discrete signals spaced about 90 Hz apart. According to an FCC HFDF staff member, a radio amateur in Camp Verde, Arizona, who had reported hearing the signal at nearly 40 dB over S9 a week earlier said it suddenly disappeared, and no one in that area has heard it since. The signal's presence reportedly generated a lot of discussion on a local repeater, however. The FCC offered no firm opinion as to the signal's source. Stations with infor-

The odd and unidentified signal mation on unidentified signals in the amathat had been reported showing up on the teur bands are asked to report them via e-40-meter phone band on or about 7238 mail to International Amateur Radio Union kHz has disappeared just as mysteriously Region 2 Monitoring System Liaison ◆ as it arrived earlier this summer. Numerous Chuck Skolaut, K0BOG, <cskolaut@arrl.

## **DXCC Desk accredits**

The following DX operations Arizona, was unable to hear it at all during have been approved for DXCC credit: 4W4JEG, Timor-Leste, October 7, 2003-June 30, 2004; T6RF, Afghanistan, July 1-August 31, 2004; TT8KR, Chad, September 7-14, 2004; 5X2A, Uganda, August 3-22, 2004; 5X4CM (5X4/KH9AE), Uganda, NTS CW Nets September 6, 2004-September 1, 2005. For • more information, visit the DXCC Web <a href="http://www.arrl.org/awards/dxcc">http://www.arrl.org/awards/dxcc">. • A new feature, "DXCC Frequently Asked Questions <a href="http://www.arrl.org/awards/">http://www.arrl.org/awards/</a> dxcc/faq/>," can answer most of your questions on the DXCC program. Current ARRL DX Bulletins are available on the W1AW DX Bulletins for 2004 page <a href="http://www.arrl.org/w1aw/dx/">http://www.arrl.org/w1aw/dx/>. - Via ARRL</a>

## Commercial Ad Rates

1/8 page, Business Card Size \$10 per Month - \$100 per Year Send ads to: Ham Chatter, PO Box 8387, Greenville, NC 27835 ATTN: Dave Langley or email w4ydy@qsl.net Help support *Ham Chatter*. **Donations** accepted!

### NETS

- 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.

Tar Heel Emergency Communications Net on 3923 kHz Nightly 1930.

- 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

## **NC ARES Internet**

http://www.ncarrl.org/ares/

PAGE 7 October 2004

# BARC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Oct 29	Regular Meeting VE Session JOTA Board Meeting CQ WW SSB DX Contest Ham Chatter Deadline ARRL CW Sweepstakes Regular Meeting	Nov 27-28.  Nov 30.  Dec 4.  Dec 4-5.  Dec 11.  Dec 11-12.  Dec 14.  Dec 17.	Ham Chatter Deadline ARRL 160 Meter Contest VE Session @ Library ARRL 10 Meter Contest Christmas & Awards Party VE Session
Nov 21	Benson <b>Hamfest</b>	Dec 28	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

## W4AMC - W1VOA

## **Printing courtesy of Xerox**



October 2004
Mext Meeting
October 12

:oT



PO Box 8387 Greenville, NC 27835

Ham Chatter