# Ham Chatter









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February 2006

Editor, Dave Langley, W4YDY

Email: w4amc@qsl .net

Associate Editor, Amanda Karr, KI4IWS

## Meet the Member Eric Christensen, KF4OTN



Eric Christensen, KF4OTN, started with Amateur Radio in high school and since then has become particularly interested in digital and satellite communications.

Eric grew up in Plymouth, N.C. where a friend, Jason Bowen, KE4EVQ, got him interested in Amateur Radio and encouraged him to get his license. In Feb. 1997 during his senior year in high school, Eric took and passed the technician test. Once on the air, he met Fred Murph, AF4CJ, and Greg Ramsey, KE4WGR. The two piqued his interest in HF and he began studying Morse code getting his Tech Plus two months later and then his General license in Aug. 1998.

Eric continued his interest in Amateur Radio after moving to Greenville and while living briefly in Orange County, N.C. and is active on HF, 6m, 2m, and 70cm. While experimenting with satellite communications he contacted Emily Clarke, W0EEC, in San Francisco, Calif. With her help, he has

become active on Saudi-OSCAR 50 (SaudiSat 1C), Naval-OSCAR 44 (PCSat), AMSAT-OSCAR 27, and AMSAT-OSCAR 51 (Echo). In 2004 he joined of AMSAT (The Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation) and later that year was appointed the AMSAT Area Coordinator for the Eastern North Carolina area. He is also a member of Project OSCAR, the founding amateur satellite club.

His equipment includes a Kenwood TS-440SAT, a Kenwood TS-520S, a Yaesu FT-100D, an Icom 706-MKIIG, a Kenwood D-700A, and various handheld transceivers. He particularly enjoys digital communications including RTTY, Pactor, and Packet and is working with John Johnson, KE4TZN, to develop a wireless e-mail system for Eastern North Carolina.

Eric is also a SKYWARN spotter and in the summer of 2005, he was appointed the Assistant Emergency Coordinator for the Newport District SKYWARN. He also manages the local SKYWARN Web site (www. mhxskywarn.org) and the digital solutions that aid the Newport National Weather Service in receiving necessary weather reports from the fifteen counties of their responsibility. In December, he was awarded a Distinguished Service Award by the National Weather Service for his work in building a virtual presence on the Internet for the Newport District SKYWARN. was just notified recently that he has received the Satellite Communications Achievement Award. The award recog-

## Next Meeting Delayed 1 day to Wednesday February 15

The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club will have its next meeting on Wednesday, February 15 at VFW Post Home 7032 on 1108 Mumford Road in Greenville. Bernie Nobles, WA4MOK will do an ARES presentation showing what happens at the State level. It's birthday party time again. Cake and ice cream for all. Wear your BARC green shirts.

The next board meeting will be February 28 at 7:30 PM at 3219 Landmark St., Suite 8B.

nizes operators who have made satellite contacts with 20 different U.S. states or Canadian call areas or DXCC countries.

As a member of the Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club, Eric participated in the 2005 Field Day.

He is currently in his senior year at East Carolina University working toward his B.S. in Computers and Information Technology with a concentration in Information Security. He also works full-time for the university as a network analyst, managing all the computer systems and networks, voice and data radio systems and biometric systems for the ECU Police Department and he is a Petty Officer, 2nd Class in the Navy Reserve.

Eric tracks many of his Amateur Radio activities at www.ericsatcom.net/ RadioKF4OTN/. - *Amanda, KI4IWS* 

### President's Corner - Dave Pulver, KG4CZV



year, but it will be quite busy month for BARC.

O monthly meeting originally scheduled for Tuesday, February

Next meeting will be

delayed one day to

Wednesday, Feb. 15

14. Since this is Valentine's Day and attendance would likely be low, the Board decided to move it back one day to Wednesday February 15. We hope this change will not only increase attendance, lost one of the most talented individuals

but keep most of us out of trouble with our YL's.

you looking for something to do on the weekends.

this month, there are plenty of local amateur radio events to choose from.

will be an ARES meeting in Columbia for Area 1 and Area 2.

On Saturday, February 18, there

February will be a Basic Spotter weather class on may be the short- the ECU campus in Greenville from 9:00 est month of the am to noon. John Cole of the National Weather Service in Newport will be conducting the class.

> On Sunday, February 26, the u r North Carolina QSO party will be active at VOA site C from noon until everyone has had enough. It will be preceded on the 25th with a work party.

> > Anyone who would like to attend any of these events can pick up the details on the Monday night PCEC net, or vou can contact me.

> > Near the end of January, BARC

in the club. Ken Graf, N8FF, has moved to eastern Tennessee to be near his "sweetie". Ken had a very good support group within

the club. The large group of club members that showed up to see him off is a On Saturday, February 11, there testimony to both Ken and the club. Ken's Field Day record of CW contacts will probably stand forever. More important than that, Ken leaves a void here that

## **Next VE Session**

The next Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club VE session will be held on February 17. 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 \$14.00
- Proof of Tech Plus if before 3/21/87 and doing paper upgrade to General.

Be sure to bring copies of your Amateur Radio license and / or CSCE if upgrading.

will take time to fill. We thank Ken for his impact on our lives and wish him the best of luck in this new adventure in his life.

For those who have questions or comments, you can call me at (252) 353-7161, or e-mail me at <kg4czv@earthlink. net>.

Dave Pulver, KG4CZV

## Happy Birthday

### Condolences

BARC offers its condolences to Philip Garrett, K4PRG, and his family on the passing of his mother on January 10.

Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club members birthdays in February.

8	KD4AFL	Ray Vickers
9	W4GDF	Heber Adams
15	KE4JZU	Gene Underwood
16	KG4WEZ	Peter Van Houten
17	K4ROK	Doug Ferris
20	WD4JAD	George Dale
20	KE4UGG	Michael Metcalf

Please let me know of any additions or

## Well Wishes

Thoughts and Prayers go out to the following:



Please inform Dan

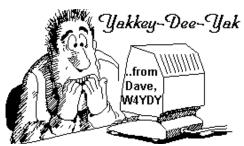


Drake, KG4ISO, of any changes.

In This Issue Meet the Member, KF40TN 1 President's corner 2 Next BARC VE Session - Feb. 17 2 Yakkey-Dee-Yak from W4YDY 3 Vanity processing starts again 3 KC8VKZ moved to rehab 3 BARC Internet site 4 NC OSO Party - February 26-27 4 Best time to catch NAISS 4 2006 membership dues 5 December Meeting minutes 6 December Board minutes 6 New Technician exam questions

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 - DAVE PULVER, KG4CZV, 353-7161 FIRST V. PRESIDENT - DAN DRAKE, KG4ISO, 717-2605 SECOND V. PRESIDENT - TAYLOR MILLAR, W4WTM, 756-2192 SECRETARY - RICHARD COX, K4CRD, 524-4089 TREASURER - TERRY MONDAY, KG4WEW, 756-6019 BOARD MEMBER - JOHN McCOY, K4KBB, 758-1719 BOARD MEMBER - MIKE LANGLEY, KD4MTT, 752-4356 PUBLIC RELATIONS - PAT WILLIAMS, KG4NSC, 752-9281 W4AMC/W1VOA TRUSTEE & VE LAISION, TOM PARSONS, W4TEP, 355-2815 HAM CHATTER & WEB SITE EDITOR - DAVE LANGLEY, W4YDY, 321-2525 HAM CHATTER ASSOCIATE EDITOR - AMANDA KARR, KI4IWS, 355-3301 EMAIL ADDRESSES ON BARC WEB SITE OPINIONS BY WRITERS MAY NOT NECESSARILY BE THAT OF THE BARC. CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTABLE.

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Everyone should come to the February meeting for the 39<sup>th</sup> birthday party of the Brightleaf ARC. Murray Merner, K4MHM, reminds everyone to wear their green BARC shirts.

I offered to set up a web site for BARC back in the summer of 1996 and it was accepted. I was not all that great on doing a site but I figured I could learn a little about it by finger-boning the keyboard. I'm still not great at it by any means but it seems to get the message out. Starting in July, 1996, we first use Geocities for a free host and the URL was < http://www.geocities.com/

CapeCanaveral/4208/>. Geocities later changed it to <a href="http://www.geocities.com/">http://www.geocities.com/</a> w4amc/>. Geocities starting adding their ads and popups to the free sites and in July, 1999, we moved the site to another free host, QSL.NET <a href="http://www.qsl.net/">http://www.qsl.net/</a> w4amc/> with redirects from the Geocities addresses. QSL.NET only allows hams and ham clubs to use it's site. The BARC site has been getting about 250 hits a month and will celebrate its 10th anniversary in July.

Recently QSL.NET went over 400,000 users, it sends and receives over 1 million e-mails daily....and has online over 50,000 individual and club web pages. Even with 21 servers, it is slow on some downloads, including the PDF files that *Ham Chatter* uses. As you can see, it is a busy host.

BARC has decided to set up the web site on a new host because the present host that is free seems to be overloaded. See page 4 for details about the new host and its cost. - W4YDY

## Some February events for BARC members

**February 11**, Area 1 & 2 ARES meeting at the Masonic Lodge in Columbia, 10:30AM.

Wednesday February 15, Regular meeting to be held one day later this month.

**February 17,** VE Session at 6:30 PM. See page 2.

**February 18**, Basic Spotter training at ECU. 9:00AM - Noon.

**February 22**, Pitt County Multi-agency show and tell. Doug, K4ROK, will have more at the meeting.

**February 25**, Work day at VOA 9:00 - @ Noon.

**February 26**, NC QSO Party at VOA Site C, Noon - to 10 PM.

Also, there are 3 world wide contests in February. RTTY starts on the **11th**, CW starts on the **18th** and SSB starts on the **25th**. Good chance to work a lot of DX.

## W4UHS new vanity call sign for BARC

The call sign **W4UHS** was assigned to the Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club on January 19, 2006. The call will primarily be used at the Pitt County Memorial Hospital that is part of the University Health Systems of Eastern Carolina. The primary call sign of BARC is **W4AMC** and another vanity call is **W1VOA** used primarily at the old VOA site C. Tom Parsons, **W4TEP**, is the call sign trustee for BARC.

## FCC zips through vanity application backlog

Once the FCC resumed processing Amateur Radio vanity call sign applications earlier this month, its Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB) blazed through the backlog.

A total of 990 vanity applications piled up in the queue after the FCC suspended vanity processing September 23. The WTB dispatched them in fairly short order. An initial batch of 121 grants Friday, January 6, was followed by 195 more the next day. Apparently confident by then that the system was working okay, the FCC let loose the remaining 674 vanity grants Tuesday, January 10.

During the vanity hiatus, applications appeared with a "Y--application has problems" flag in the Universal Licensing System (ULS) <a href="http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/">http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/</a>, prompting some concern on the part of those who checked their

applications' status. The WTB reportedly applied the "Y" status to prevent the system from running the entire backlog at

The WTB halted vanity processing last fall after realizing that filing deadline extensions for licensees in certain states affected by hurricanes Katrina and Rita applied to Amateur Radio's two-year "grace period" and could impact the vanity system.

FCC spokesman Tracy Simmons told ARRL this week that the WTB now is processing current vanity call sign receipts. It typically takes approximately three weeks from the time a vanity application is submitted until a call sign is issued. The current vanity call sign fee is \$21.90 for the ten-year license term.-some information from Fred Maia, W5YI - via ARRL Letter Online 1/13/06

### Injured miner Randy McCloy, KC8VKZ, moved to rehab facility

Randy McCloy, KC8VKZ, the sole survivor of the January 2 Upshur County, West Virginia, coal mine tragedy, has been transferred from the hospital to a rehabilitation center. McCloy, 26, was moved to HealthSouth Mountainview Regional Rehabilitation Hospital in Morgantown on January 26. McCloy's condition remains fair. He is no longer in a coma, although he remains unable to speak, according to his physician, Dr Larry Roberts. McCloy's fever has dropped and he has not needed kidney dialysis in the past few days. The explosion at Sago Mine killed 12 other miners and left the mine filled with deadly carbon monoxide. McCloy has been hospitalized for the past three weeks at West Virginia University's Ruby Memorial Hospital. Well-wishers have been sending cards and OSLs to McCloy at PO Box 223, Philippi, WV 26435. A fund has been set up to accept donations for McCloy's benefit: The Randal McCloy Jr Fund, c/o Clear Mountain Bank, 1889 Earl Core Rd, Morgantown, WV 26505. via ARRL Letter Online 02/03/06

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## **BARC Internet site address changing**

other web site host. There have been prob- There are also many other features.. lems with the present host with very slow downloads and some outages. cussed. The old host would redirect to the \$51.92 per year for the club. new one.

Several domain names were dis- ruary club meeting. cussed and since BARC is already used, the board recommendation was to use in July 1996. Dave Langley, W4YDY, www.w4amc.com. Checking other club offered to set up a web site for BARC and domain names, there are quite a few using it was accepted. The site celebrates its a call sign and .com and .org. The .com 10th anniversary this year. name is more popular on the Internet so that was the reason for the recommenda- 2006 North Carolina tion.

It was decided by the board to use GoDaddy.com because of its very good reputation. The Economy Plans fee is \$42.72 per year (3.56/mo). Disk Space is 5,000 MB and monthly data transfer is 250,000 MB (250 GB). It includes up to 500 email accounts that includes spam, fraud, & virus protection, Webmail, Catchall, 10 MB space; and more. Also included

BARC will be changing to an- is up to 50 email forwarding accounts.

The domain name at GoDaddy. At the comper year cost is \$8.95 plus an ICANN board meeting in January, this was dis- 25 cent fee. That comes to a total of

This will be discussed at the Feb-

The BARC web site was started

## **QSO Party**

NC QSO Party is February 26, 1700Z through February 27, 0300Z. (10 hours). For more information, go to: http://www.w4nc.com/pages/6/index.htm

BARC will defend its third place title and challenge for first place. Contact Dave LeMoine, KV4CN, and give him your assistance to make it happen.

## Ham Chatter and **BARC** photos on CD

A CD is available with 103 issues of Ham Chatter edited by Dave Langley, W4YDY. They are from June 1997 to December 2005. They are in the PDF format and the latest Adobe Reader is included on the CD for those that do not have it installed. The menu is similar to the one on the club web page.

Also, ten years of photos and commentary for BARC Field Day operations from 1996 to 2005 is on the CD along with several special event station operations. The menus and photo pages are in the HTML format and it will use your browser.

Other features of the CD are some Amateur Radio software for CW training, PSK, RTTY, SSTV and logging. The 2005 ARRL video with Walter Cronkite narrating is also included.

Cost is \$5.00. Anyone who may be interested may email w4amc at qsl. net.. Also you may contact Terry Monday, KG4WEW, at the BARC address.

## Weekends best time to catch NA1SS on the air

The best time to catch International Space Station (ISS) Expedition 12 Commander Bill McArthur, KC5ACR, on the air from NA1SS is during a weekend. Now about halfway through his sixmonth duty tour, McArthur already has more than 300 casual contacts in his log, and he's eager to up the count.

"Weekends seem to be Bill's favorite time to operate," says Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) Ham Radio Project Engineer Kenneth Ransom, N5VHO. "The weekend has few scheduled activities, so the crew may operate anywhere from 0800 until 2200 UTC."

But Ransom says McArthur also operates in his free time on weekdays, and that includes his lunch hour, scheduled around 1200 to 1400 UTC. "Bill has occasionally operated in this time during the week," he told ARRL.

The crew's work day ends about 1930 UTC, but McArthur and crewmate Valery Tokarev usually stay up for another couple of hours. The crew sleeps from 2130 until 0630 UTC.

McArthur recently completed

Worked All Continents (WAC) from space, including the "traditional ARISS" requirement to work Antarctica.

"We clearly share a lot in common," McArthur told Chuck Kimball, NOMHJ, at Palmer Station's KC4AAC during their 2-meter contact December 17. "You know, we have this bond. Just our hostile environments are a little bit different."

McArthur's still trying to earn Worked All States (WAS) and DXCC from space and as 2005 drew to a close already had logged 37 states and 38 DXCC entities.

Responding to questions regarding the legitimacy of a DXCC earned from a spacecraft circling 220 miles above Earth, ARRL Membership Services Manager Wayne Mills, N7NG, concedes that while McArthur's efforts don't have that much to do with traditional DXCC, they won't devalue the efforts of those earning the award from Earth either.

"While rules are very important, particularly in defining the DXCC program, other concepts can, and often do, transcend mere rules," he said. "Think of this as more of a public relations opportunity."

In addition, McArthur has been averaging two ARISS school group contacts as his schedule permits. Not since Expedition 3--when there were three people aboard the ISS for each crew increment--has a crew member done this on a regular basis.

The NA1SS worldwide voice and packet downlink frequency is 145.800 MHz. In Regions 2 and 3 (the Americas, and the Pacific), the voice uplink is 144.49 MHz. In Region 1 (Europe, Central Asia and Africa), the voice uplink is 145.20 MHz. The worldwide packet uplink is 145.99 MHz.

When NA1SS is in crossband FM repeater mode, the worldwide downlink is 145.80 MHz, and the uplink is 437.80 MHz. All frequencies are subject to Doppler shift. The Science@NASA Web site provides location information for the ISS <a href="http://science.">http://science.</a> nasa.gov/temp/StationLoc.html>. - via ARRL Letter Online 1/6/06

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## 2006 Membership Dues

It's that time of the year once again. Membership dues for BARC are due January 1, 2006. The 2006 membership roster will be published in the April or May 2006 Ham Chatter. Those who have not paid their dues will not be listed on the roster and will be removed from the Ham Chatter mailing list starting with the April issue. Membership dues are the same as they were in 2005, and are as follows:

Regular Member \$20.00 Family Member \$2.00

Associate Member (Non-Licensed) \$5.00 Honorary Member \$0.00

\$5.00

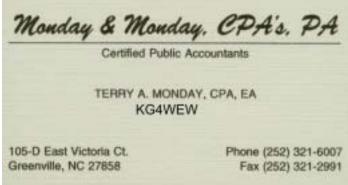
New Hams: 19 and older (1st year) \$10.00

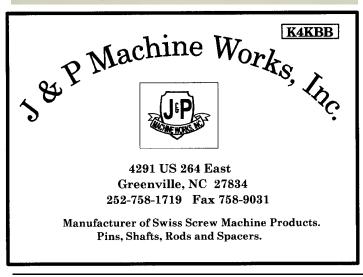
Please mail your dues, along with the member application form to: Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 8387, Greenville, NC 27835

We are requesting that you complete the application form so that we can have your correct information on file. The form on page 4 can be copied or New Hams: 18 and younger (1st year) downloaded from http://www.qsl.net/ w4amc/application.html.

If anyone has any questions concerning their membership status or their dues, please call me at (252) 756-6019 (H), (252) 321-6007 (W) or e-mail me at tamonday @ earthlink.net. Thank you for your support and participation in BARC. Terry Monday, KG4WEW, BARC Treas-











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## **BARC Meeting Minutes - January 2006**

BARC Meeting Minutes - Jan. 2006 MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES VFW HALL, MUMFORD ROAD January 10, 2006

Dan Drake, KG4ISO, 1st Vice President called the meeting to order at 7:30 P. M. He called for the following reports:

**Secretary Report:** Taylor Millar, W4WTM reported that he was serving as secretary tonight.

**Treasurer Report:** Terry Monday, KG4WEW, reported on all of the income and expenses during the month. A number of members paid the annual dues.

Health & Welfare Report: It was reported that Walt Verdick has just had stints put in. It was also reported that Philip Garrett's, Mother, KI4DLO, has just passed away. Keep these in your thoughts and prayers.

**Publicity Report:** Pat Williams, KG4SNC, told about the new sign-up needed at Food Lion. He said the MVP cards can be registered at Food Lion's web site at food.lion.com.http://www.food.lion.com We have to have at least 25 signed up to qualify for the rebates. You can also do this by phoning their Salisbury office at 704-633-8250 ext. 3810.

**VE** Session Report: Tom Parsons, W4TEP, told about the next session to be held at St. Peter's Church on February 17th.

**Special Events Report:** Dave LeMoine, KV4CN, reported that the QSO will be held at VOA Site C on Feb. 26th from 12 noon until about 10 P. M. A work day will be scheduled about a week earlier.

Arrangements by Paul Fletcher, KS4YF, will need to be made to get access.

ARES Report - Eastern Branch: Bernie Nobles, WA4MOK, reported that the next meeting for Areas 1 & 2 will be held on Saturday, Feb. 11th at 10:00 A.M. One of the main subjects at this meeting will be jump kits. He also mentioned that Section Manager, John Covington, W4CC, is stepping down after serving two terms. The new Section Manager taking over April 1st is Tm Slay, K4IB. He is an engineer with Duke Power. A state ARES meeting will be held just prior to the Raleigh Ham Fest on April 22nd.

ARES Report - Pitt County: Doug Ferris, K4ROK, announced an upcoming interagency meeting in February at the Pitt County Offices with the Trailer. Byron Highland, K4BMH, asked for everyone to sign up for net control operators. Byron also reported that leaders from the Special Olympics had sent a word of thanks for what the Club had done this past year.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Dogwood Festival:** It was mentioned that we may need to find a new location at the Dogwood Festival due to no one will be located on the street. We will host the rain gauge again this year. Doug mentioned that we may want to have the club trailer and the tower trailer. Doug and Byron agreed to help plan the Dogwood Festival.

Web Site Dave Langley: Dave Langley, W4YDY, talked about the proposed website change due to problems with the present one. It was voted to send a 25 dollar donation to OSL net. Dave also men-

tioned sending QSL cards and donations to Randy McCloy, KC8VKZ, the coal miner saved in West Virginia.

Kinston Down East Ham Fest- Byron Highland:

Byron talked about the upcoming Ham Fest in Kinston on April 2nd. Tickets are 4 dollars each or 3 for 10 dollars. He mentioned good door prizes with several radios, etc.

Spring Raffle:

Most wanted to go with the same type of grill from Daughridge Oil Company that we had last year. There will be more news about this at the next meeting.

#### PROGRAM: W4YDY - DAVE LANG-

**LEY:** Dave demonstrated the CD being sold by the club. Not many of us knew that Walter Cronkite is a ham. The CD is worthwhile just for Walter's message about BPL. Having all the BARC newsletters is priceless also.

**Oakwood School Tower Update:** Peter Van Houten, KG4WEZ, had a slide show of the antenna installation at Oakwood School.

He also showed software about tracking satellites, and communicating with them using local repeaters.

#### Adjournment:

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned about 9:25 P M. Respectively Submitted by

Taylor Millar, W4WTM

Substitute Minute Taker

## **BARC Board Minutes - January 2006**

### BARC BOARD MEETING January 31, 2006

Dave Pulver, KG4CZV, called the meeting to order at 1930 EST. Attendees were: Dave Langley, W4YDY, Terry Monday, WG4WEW, Taylor Millar, W4WTM, Pat Williams, KG4NSC, Mike Langley, KD4MTT, Philip Garrett, K4PRG, and Richard Cox, K4CRD.

**Secretary's Report:** Richard, K4CRD, gave the Secretary's report.

**Treasury's Report:** Terry, WG4WEW, gave the Treasurers report.

**Health & Welfare:** No report.

**Ham Chatter:** Dave, W4YDY reminded to have the BARC CD's at the Kinston and Raleigh ham fests.

**Publicity:** Pat, KG4NSC, reported that he has registered the club in the Food Lion Share program and reminded all to sign up their MVP cards at the Food Lion website. We need a minimum of 25 to qualify for the program. This is a good

fundraiser with no cost.

**Programs:** Taylor, W4WTM, reported the program for February will be a power point presentation by Bernie, WA4MOK, on ARES (state level). A discussion was held concerning programs for the year.

**VE Session:** The next VE session will be February 17th at St. Peter's School.

**Equipment:** Mike, KD4MTT, reported the only thing outstanding was the roof racks traffic cones for the trailer.

(Continued on page 7)

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### **BARC Board Minutes - January 2006**

(Continued from page 6)

Events: February 11, Area 1 & 2 ARES meeting at the Masonic Lodge in Columbia, 10:30AM. February 18, Basic Spotter training at ECU. 9:00AM - Noon. More will be coming later. February 22, Pitt County Multiagency show and tell. Doug, K4ROK, will have more at the meeting. February 25, Work day at VOA 9:00 - @ Noon. February 26, NC QSO Party at announcement will be on the website, Ham **NETS** VOA Site C, Noon - @10:00 or before.

Old Business: A discussion was held concerning the raffle, and it was decided on setup for the Dogwood Festival. Doug, possibly 3 items of like value, with the winner choosing the one they want. A decision must be made shortly in order to have the tickets ordered as soon as possible. It was mentioned some of the funds from the raffle could be used for upkeep/ maintenance on the clubs trailer, and some all purpose signage for events.

It was decided to move the clubs website bers at the next meeting. to another host and register the domain w4amc.com. This will cost approximately

New Technician class question pool released to the public: The National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC) Question Pool Committee (QPC) has released the new Technician (Element 2) Amateur Radio examination question pool. The new Element 2 question pool is available for viewing or download in Adobe PDF, MS Word, RTF and ASCII text format from the NCVEC Web site <a href="http://www.ncvec.org/ama">http://www.ncvec.org/ama</a> news article. php?id=81>. The new question pool becomes effective for all examinations administered on or after July 1, 2006, and it will remain valid until June 30, 2010. The current Element 2 question pool will expire June 30, 2006. The new Technician pool contains 396 questions, from which 35 are selected for an Element 2 examination. This question pool contains no graphics or diagrams. The QPC requests that anyone spotting possible errors or suggesting corrections contact the Ouestion Pool Committee via e-mail <qpcinput@ncvec.org>. Reference the question pool (ie, Technician, General, Amateur Extra) in the subject line, and include the question number (s) involved plus a brief explanation. Forward comments and suggestions for new questions or changes in topic areas for any of the three question pools, Element 2, 3 or 4.--NCVEC - via ARRL Letter Online 1/27/06

\$55.00 a year. This change would allow 1/8 page, Business Card Size for faster loading and downloads of items such as Ham Chatter. This will be presented to the members at the next meeting. New Business: Due to the February meeting being on Valentines Day and many members have other plans, it was decided to move the meeting to Wednesday February 15th instead of Tuesday the 14th. The Chatter and via email.

WE will have to have a new location to K4ROK, and Byron, K4BMH, will get with Cliff Kendall of Farmville and decide on a location.

It was decided that the club would purchase tables for the Kinston and Raleigh Ham fests.

Terry, KG4WEW, presented the budget for 2006, which will be presented to the mem-

With no further business Dave, KG4CZV, ◆ closed the meeting at 8:30PM

Respectfully submitted by

Richard Cox, K4CRD

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: w4amc @ qsl.net (no spaces)

For Sale: MQ-26SR Two Element, Six Band Hybrid Quad Antenna List \$649.95. For 6,10,12,15,17,20 Meters. More info at http://www3.sympatico.ca/tgmc/mq-26sr.html. Sell for \$300. Also, HAM V Rotator, \$700. Walter Honea, W4HM. Richard Cox, K4CRD, 940-1828 or 524-4089 k4crd@earthlink.net

Free: ARRL General Class License Manual 5th edition and ARRL General Q&A Guide. Free to any club member studying for General License. Contact Terry Monday, KE4WEW, at 321-6007 (daytime).

### **Commercial Ad Rates**

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- 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.

#### **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

### **NC ARES Internet**

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

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## BARC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Feb 11-12 ... CQ WPX RTTY Contest

\*Feb 15 ... Regular Meeting
Feb 17 ... BARC VE Session
Feb 18-19 ... ARRL CW DX Contest
Feb 25-26 ... CQ WW SSB 160 Contest
Feb 28 ... Board Meeting
Mar 4 ... Ham Chatter Deadline
Mar 4 ... ARRL SSB DX Contest
Mar 14 ... Regular Meeting
Mar 25 ... CQ WW SSB WPX Contest
March 28 ... Board Meeting

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

\*ATTENTION: The February Regular Meeting will be held ONE day later on Wednesday, February 15 due to Valentine's Day on the 14th.

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

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WEDNESDAY WEDNESDAY February 15

February 2006

:oT



PO Box 8387 Greenville, NC 27835

Ham Chatter