

Ham Chatter



Volume 43 Issue 1

An Official BARC, W4AMC, Publication

January 2009

Editor, Dave Langley, W4YDY

Email: barc@w4amc.com

Associate Editor, Tim Nelson, WA4TMN

Richard Cox, K4CRD, named BARC Ham of the Year at the BARC Christmas Party



Mike Langley, KD4MTT, presents Ham of the Year award to Richard Cox, K4CRD

Richard Cox, K4CRD, was named 2008 BARC Ham of the Year at the BARC Christmas Party on December 9. He was presented a plaque by Mike Langley, KD4MTT, Master of Ceremonies. The members and their families enjoyed a pot luck dinner and it was outstanding. Thanks to all for the outstanding food. Thanks also to Bonnie Pulver, KG4CZV, for overseeing the preparations at the VFW Hall with beautiful table settings, beverages furnished by BARC and bringing in the Poinsettias for the tables. They were given to lucky ticket holders to take home.

Other BARC awards presented were Elmer of the Year, Bernie Nobles, WA4MOK; New Ham of the Year, Albert Sanchez, WA7FXB; YL of the Year, Gerrie Sanchez, KJ4DMV, and OM of the Year, Dave Pulver, KG4CZV.

Certificates were awarded to VE Liaison, Tom Parsons, W4TEP, VE's Ted Bertrand, KI4PWX, Bob Moore, N4USB, Richard Cox, K4CRD, Dave Langley,

W4YDY, Susan Langley-Jones, WA4AKB, Murray Merner, K4MHM, and Terry Monday, K4ZYD.

Certificates were also presented to Murray Merner, K4MHM, 2008 Field Day Chairman; Tom Parsons, W4TEP, Club Station Trustee; Pat Williams, KG4NSC, Public Relations and Dave Langley, W4YDY, Ham Chatter and Web site Editor.

A plaque was presented to Terry Monday, K4ZYD, for outstanding leadership as 2008 president. Certificates were presented for other 2008 officers, Bob Moore, N4USB, 1st VP; Ted Bertrand, KI4PWX, 2nd VP, Murray Merner, K4MHM, Secretary; Richard Cox, K4CRD, Treasurer; John Prokop, N8MPX, 2 year Board Member and Dave Pulver, KG4CZV, 1 year Board Member.

The officers for 2009 were introduced. They are - Bob Moore, N4USB, President; Albert Sanchez, WA7FXB, First VP; Ted Bertrand, KI4PWX, Second VP; Dave Pulver, KG4CZV, Treasurer; Bonnie Pulver, KG4CZV, Secretary; John Prokop, N8MPX, 2 year Board Member and Terry Monday, K4ZYD, 1 year Board Member.

BARC DUES ARE DUE!

It's January and it's always taxes and BARC dues! BARC dues are due on January 1st while most have until April 15 for the big one. Those that have not paid by March 1 will receive a big **RED DOT** on their March newsletter or email. Also about March 1, the password will change on the W4AMC.COM site for the rosters.

See page 7 for more information about the dues.

Next Meeting January 13

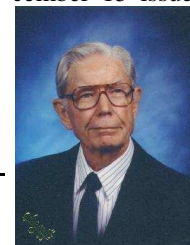
The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club will have its next meeting on Tuesday, January 13 at 7:30 PM at VFW Post Home 7032 on 1108 Mumford Road in Greenville.

The program will be by Doug Blizzard, N4HAJ, from Kinston. He will talk about the Baptist Men's Role in Disaster Relief. BARC Officers for 2009 will be elected. All members, families and guests are invited to attend.

The next board meeting will be January 27 at 7:30 PM at 631-B Dickinson Avenue - entrance at back of the building. All members invited.

Bill, W4EHF, in Newsweek

Active BARC member, Bill Finch, W4EHF, was spotlighted in the December 15 issue of the Health section of



Newsweek Magazine with almost a full page picture. Also a front page article was in the Dec. 13 Daily Reflector. From the monthly ARRL NCS News by Tim Slay, N4IB, Bill,

96, is still a very active traffic handler and radio amateur. Bill is also the founding net control station for the Tarheel Emergency Net, which started soon after the FCC removed the World War II restrictions on amateur radio. He is also a champion badminton player and he is the world-record holder for the 1,500-meter run among 95-99-year-olds! BTW, he has a birthday this month. BARC congratulates Bill.

President's Corner, Bob Moore, N4USB

I would like to wish everyone a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year and hope that your Amateur Radio plans for this year will be fulfilled.

I would also like to express my thanks to the out going BARC Officers: President: Terry Monday, K4ZYD; Second VP: Ted Bertrand, KI4PWX; Secretary: Murray Merner, K4MHM; Treasurer: Richard Cox, K4CRD; Trustees: John Prokop, N8MPX; and Dave Pulver, KG4CZV; for their tireless work for the betterment of Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club. I would also like to thank all the other members that have contributed so much to the success of our many projects last year. I look forward to working with you to duplicate that success again this year.

We start the year with a challenge to assist the Beaufort County and Belhaven area in particular to support their effort to provide a Technician Class to license a cadre of operators for emergency situations. Several of our members will probably be requested to team with their instructor to assist in presenting the Technician course materials and provide the VE testing assets at the completion of the class.

The class dates are January 15, 22, 29, and February 5 and 12th. I know I look forward to assisting in any way that I can. If you can assist on one of these dates please contact me at 252-524-4003.

Once again I wish you the best of the New Year and wish you enjoyment in what ever of the many aspects of Amateur Radio that you enjoy.

73,
Bob Moore, N4USB

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 \$15.00 (\$1 increase in 2009)
- ◆ Proof of Tech Plus if before 3/21/87 and doing paper upgrade to General.

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

NC ARES Internet

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



In This Issue

| | |
|-----------------------------------------|---|
| <i>Richard Cox, K4CRD, BARC HotY</i> | 1 |
| <i>Next Meeting - November 11</i> | 1 |
| <i>Bill Finch, W4EHF, in Newsweek</i> | 1 |
| <i>President's Corner, N4USB</i> | 2 |
| <i>Next VE Session - February 20</i> | 2 |
| <i>Yakkey-Dee-Yak from Dave</i> | 3 |
| <i>DTV Conversion</i> | 3 |
| <i>Congress lambasting FCC Chairman</i> | 4 |
| <i>December VE Session Results</i> | 5 |
| <i>December Meeting minutes</i> | 6 |
| <i>December Board meeting minutes</i> | 6 |
| <i>QSL.NET changes hands</i> | 6 |
| <i>BARC Membership Dues</i> | 7 |



Happy Birthday

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

- | | | |
|----|--------|-----------------|
| 2 | KD4AFL | Mac Manning |
| 3 | KJ4CDO | David Bowers |
| 6 | W4ESO | Frank Spencer |
| 6 | WB2YFM | Joe Scott |
| 12 | K4CRD | Richard Cox |
| 15 | W4EHF | Bill Finch, Sr. |
| 16 | KG4WEU | David Cox |
| 23 | KA4SFF | Wayne Meekins |
| 27 | W4RCN | Terry Zipes |

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

The K7RA Solar Update

(Jan 2, 2009) -- 2008 was a year of very low solar activity. More than 40 percent of this year's propagation bulletins reported zero sunspots for their respective weeks. The average daily sunspot number for the year was 4.7; in 2007, it was 12.8. The yearly averages of daily sunspot numbers for 1999-2008 were 136.3, 173, 170.3, 176.6, 109.2, 68.6, 48.9, 26.1, 12.8 and 4.7. Sunspot numbers for December 25-31 were 0, 0, 0, 0, 0 and 0 with a mean of 0. The 10.7 cm flux was 69.3, 69.2, 69.4, 69.8, 69.8, 68.5 and 69.3 with a mean of 69.3. The estimated planetary A indices were 3, 1, 1, 2, 0, 1 and 10 with a mean of 2.6. The estimated mid-latitude A indices were 2, 2, 1, 1, 1, 1 and 8 with a mean of 2.3. - *via ARRL.ORG*

Well Wishes

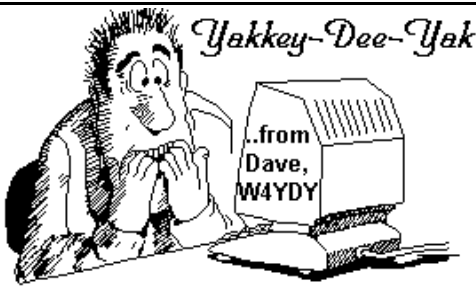
Thoughts and Prayers go out to the following:



Charlie Wells, K4SKI

Please inform Bob Moore, N4USB, n4usb@embarqmail.com of any changes.

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 - BOB MOORE, N4USB, 524-4003 □ FIRST V. PRESIDENT - ALBERT SANCHEZ, WA7FXB, 757-3023 □ SECOND V. PRESIDENT - TED BERTRAND, KG4PWX, 756-3734 □ SECRETARY - BONNIE PULVER, KG4CZW, 353-7161 □ TREASURER - DAVE PULVER, KG4CZV, 353-7161 □ BOARD MEMBER - JOHN PROKOP, N8MPX, 321-4044 □ BOARD MEMBER - TERRY MONDAY, K4ZYD, 756-6019 □ PUBLIC RELATIONS - PAT WILLIAMS, KG4NSC, 752-9281 □ W4AMC/W1VOA/W4UHS TRUSTEE & VE LAISON, TOM PARSONS, W4TEP, 355-2815 □ HAM CHATTER & WEB SITE EDITOR - DAVE LANGLEY, W4YDY, 321-2525 □ ASSOCIATE HAM CHATTER EDITOR, TIM NELSON, WA4TMN □ EMAIL ADDRESSES ON BARC WEB SITE □ OPINIONS BY WRITERS MAY NOT NECESSARILY BE THAT OF THE BRIGHTLEAF ARC. □ CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTABLE.



Where, oh where does the time go. Here it is 2009 and I haven't got over 2000 yet!

I thought I would write about the W4AMC.COM web site. About 90 percent of the BARC members have computers and keep up with the many BARC activities and announcements. Sometime there is not much during the month between meetings but at other times there are BARC breaking stories and announce-

ments in the month. I try to keep the email to a minimum so many times there is none between the Ham Chatter being online announcements.

The BARC site has been on the GoDaddy servers for almost 3 years and it has been a real pleasure to upload and download from the site. It is very fast. I can upload most Ham Chatters in less than 10 seconds. When we were on the QSL.NET site, it took about 8 to 10 minutes to upload Ham Chatter. I did a lot of waiting! Also, now we are able to use videos and more pictures at the site.

Statistics for the site are now shown for 2 full years, 2007 and 2008. For 2007, there were 32,418 page requests and for 2008, 33,128 requests, a slight increase. There have been 2,479 requests for the video files. I know all did not look at complete videos but I expect there were easily

over 2,000. The most popular video with 511 requests is the 2007 Field Day video. The 2006 FD video is second with 404 requests. The third most popular was the Dave Pulver, KG4CZV, interviewed by WNCT on September 11, 2006. There were over 300 request for viewing. Thanks to WNCT for giving us permission to use it for 2 years on our web site. The 2008 FD video had 252 requests and it has been up less than 6 months and is already one of the most popular videos at fourth.

Every Ham Chatter has been viewed over 100 times, including the December 2008 issue at 110. The November 2008 issue is at the bottom with 109 views. The most popular issue has been the October 2001 issue with 1,949 hits. I suspect that it has been seen on search sites with reference to 9-11.

Happy New Year - W4YDY

FCC Calls on Amateur Radio Service for Assistance with Digital TV Conversion



The ARRL has received a request from the FCC asking that ARRL members to provide technical educational assistance to their communities concerning the FCC-mandated digital television (DTV) conversion scheduled for February 17, 2009.

According to ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager Allen Pitts, WIAGP, Amateur Radio clubs across the country are being asked to develop and implement plans to provide information throughout January and February about the DTV conversion in their areas. The FCC is leaving it up to the clubs to decide how to do this, as local groups understand the communities in ways that the FCC does not. Each community is a little different, Pitts said, so plans carried out by the clubs will vary from community to community. Interested groups should contact their ARRL Section Manager.

Pitts stressed that hams should not make "house calls," sell any equipment or do actual installations; the request is only to distribute technical information and FCC materials. He commented: "As we all know, some folks just never get the message until too late. Materials for presentations, education and many other activities are available online. Beginning early January, FCC staff will contact Section Managers and leaders of interested clubs and, where possible, arrange to meet to share even more information, audio, visual and printed materials, as well as and training aids, with the clubs involved this effort. We know the time is short, but your aid in this now will be appreciated."

In early January, Pitts said that the FCC will ask Section Managers for the names and contact information of the volunteering groups. The FCC staff will then make contact with the groups, learn their plans and provide them with the media, brochures or other materials groups may need in this effort. Materials also can be downloaded from the DTV Conversion Web site. FCC regional staff members may even come and visit with larger groups to aid in implementation of the group's plans.

"I really appreciate the willingness of the ARRL to actively participate in helping Americans with the transition to DTV and your helpful suggestions," said George Dillon, FCC Deputy Bureau Chief

for Field Operations. "The DTV transition will be an historic moment in the evolution of TV. Broadcast television stations can offer viewers improved picture and sound quality and new programming choices. All-digital broadcasting also will allow us to significantly improve public safety communications and will usher in a new era of advanced wireless services such as the widespread deployment of wireless broadband. Our goal is to engage the amateur community on a cooperative basis to help with the DTV outreach and to educate consumers."

Dillon continued that local Amateur Radio clubs might consider offering technical advice to consumers via telephone to those consumers who may encounter difficulty with the installation and setting up of their converter box. "Any assistance...will greatly help in the efforts of the FCC to ensure a smooth transition to DTV on February 17, 2009."

Pitts advises interested groups to keep in mind that they are to provide technical educational help only: "At no time should the hams enter someone else's home or install equipment. They should not broker or sell conversion boxes in any way. Clubs can provide such things as a call-in telephone number for technical help, make presentations at meetings, do demonstrations at malls or give talks to other groups - whatever works in their community." - via ARRL Letter Online 12/12/08

Congressional Committee Members Release Report Lambasting FCC Chairman Kevin Martin

On Tuesday, December 9, the House Committee on Energy and Commerce -- the congressional committee that oversees the Federal Communications Commission -- released its majority staff report "on the bipartisan investigation of the FCC's regulatory processes and management practices." The report -- Deception and Distrust: The Federal Communications Commission under Chairman Kevin J. Martin -- stated that the investigation was prompted "by allegations to the effect that [FCC] Chairman Kevin J. Martin has abused FCC procedures by manipulating or suppressing reports, data and information."

"Our investigation confirmed a number of troubling allegations raised by individuals in and outside the FCC," said Representative Bart Stupak (D-MI), Chairman of the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations. "The Committee staff report details some of the most egregious abuses of power, suppression of information and manipulation of data under Chairman Martin's leadership. It is my hope that this report will serve as a roadmap for a fair, open and efficient FCC under new leadership in the next administration."

Representative John D. Dingell (D-MI), Chairman of the Committee on Energy and Commerce echoed Stupak's concerns: "Any of these findings, individually, are cause for concern. Together, the findings suggest that, in recent years, the FCC has operated in a dysfunctional manner and Commission business has suffered as a result. It is my hope that the new FCC Chairman will find this report instructive and that it will prove useful in helping the Commission avoid making the same mistakes."

The report said that "in an investigation of this nature," the Committee would usually hold hearings "to receive testimony from witnesses and to further examine the issues." But due to what the Committee called "the climate of fear that currently pervades the FCC," the report said the Committee found that key witnesses "were unwilling to testify or even have their names become known." For that reason, they issued a report in place of a hearing "to protect the many honest people who came forward under a promise of protection or anonymity." Chairman Martin

was invited to meet with the Committee to discuss matters addressed by the investigation, but the report said he "ignored [the Committee's] invitation," as did his Chief of Staff Daniel Gonzalez and Chief of Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau Derek Poarch.

In its 110-page report, the Committee described 12 allegations, ranging from retaliation against FCC employees who differed with the Chairman's policies to enhanced 911 wireless services to broadband over power lines (BPL). To go along with the 12 allegations, 22 exhibits were attached to the report, such as internal e-mails, e-mails from FCC commissioners to their staff, statements made by FCC commissioners and letters to and from commissioners (including Chairman Martin). Not all 12 allegations were substantiated by the Committee.

Broadband over Power Lines

Concerning BPL, the report alleges that FCC officials "ignored complaints of radio frequency interference caused by BPL high-speed Internet technology, delayed an enforcement investigation for two years and improperly withheld engineering data regarding BPL from the public."

The report found that in October 2004, as then-Chairman Michael Powell issued his final rule "defining BPL access and setting technical and administrative requirements to protect licensed radio operators from harmful interference," the FCC "withheld from the public certain engineering reports on which it relied in promulgating the rule" from the final rule and order.

Even though the BPL rules were adopted during Powell's tenure, the report found that "it was under Chairman Martin that the Enforcement Bureau and the General Counsel continued to withhold the redacted engineering reports and insisted on doing so in the course of the ensuing litigation [with the ARRL]."

The report goes on to say that on April 25, 2008, the US Court of Appeals for the DC Circuit found that the FCC, in the case filed by the ARRL, "violated the Administrative Procedure Act when it played 'hide and seek' with engineering data used in its support of the order and 'cherry-picked' a study on which it had re-

lied."

"The fact that the FCC withheld the required engineering reports in this matter," the report concluded, "indicates poor judgment and an attempt to hide critical weaknesses in its decision. Ironically, the FCC's attempts to hide this information only served to provoke suspicion and its handmaiden, litigation. This case [filed by the ARRL] illustrates the extent to which a culture of secrecy has developed at the FCC that is as counterproductive as it is unnecessary." The report states that this "particular situation" has been corrected by the courts and technological issues arising from BPL have been "rendered largely moot over time due to improvements" in BPL technology.

"It is distressing, but unfortunately not surprising," said ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, "to read that the FCC's mishandling of the BPL issue was simply a part of a broad pattern of dysfunction at the Commission. This is a relatively recent development and is unprecedented in the ARRL's long experience with the FCC -- an association that dates back to the very creation of the agency, 20 years after the founding of the ARRL. While the marketplace failure of BPL and the steps taken voluntarily by the few companies that have deployed BPL systems have combined to minimize interference, the regulatory issue is by no means moot. The rules remain inadequate."

Sumner continued: "More than seven months after the Court remand, the FCC has done nothing to correct its errors, nor has it complied with the very specific instructions from the United States Court of Appeals. These instructions included the disclosure of the studies that it intentionally withheld from the public, but upon which it relied in adopting its rules. Indeed, the only step the Commission has taken since the Court's remand order is to mount an unsuccessful effort to oppose our claim for reimbursement of the printing costs for the briefs in the case -- a small fraction of the expenses incurred by the ARRL in our appeal -- expenses that would not have been necessary had the Commission followed the law in the first place." - *via ARRL Letter Online 12/12/08*

Go to <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2008/12/12/10505/?nc=1> for more.

December VE Session Results

No candidates came to the December 12 VE session.


The VE's were VE Liaison Tom Parsons, W4TEP, Ted Bertrand, KI4PWX, and Dave Langley, W4YDY.

The next regular VE session will be February 20, 2009, one week late due to location conflict.

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: barc@w4amc.com (no spaces)

MARK'S MARINE, INC.



Hwy. 33 East
Greenville, NC
252 758-3309
Fax 252 758-1396

Mark Langley
Mike Langley
KD4MTT

H&R BLOCK Preparing America's Taxes Since 1955

Patrick Williams, KG4NSC
Office Coordinator
Senior Tax Advisor / Notary Public

Stanton Square 2408 Stantonsburg Rd
Greenville, NC 27834
Tel 252 329 1099 Fax 252 695 0392
patrick.williams@tax.hrblock.com
Year Round Service
6386 Arlington Blvd Greenville, NC 27858
Tel 252 756 6883 Fax 252 756 2141 hrblock.com

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.

Wanted: Looking for QST's 2006, 2007, 2008, Monitoring times 2006, 2007, 2008, and Popular communications any issues or years. If anyone has some they don't want, please email Neal, NC4RR at nscsrr@suddenlink.net.

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

TERRY A. MONDAY, CPA, CVA, EA
K4ZYD

105-D East Victoria Ct. Phone (252) 321-6007
Greenville, NC 27858 Fax (252) 321-2991

BatteriesPlus 
America's Battery Experts®

Batteries Plus January 2009 Specials....
SAVE \$5 on Rayovac cell phone batteries
SAVE \$4 on Rayovac carded lithium camera batteries
SAVE \$10 on Werker Signature and Ultra auto and truck batteries
 Get your watch battery and installation for \$5.99 if you mention this ad
 Come see our new expanded line of flashlights Streamlight and Rayovac brand
 Thanks,
Vern Wenger, Owner, Batteries Plus #167

| | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| 740 Greenville Blvd. SE Suite 500-A Greenville, NC 27858 252.353.8143 | Store Hours Mon-Fri 8:00-7:00 Sat 9:00-5:00 Sun closed |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|

BARC Meeting Minutes - December 2008

The annual BARC Christmas party with families and friends was held in place of the regular meeting. No minutes were taken. For details of the party and awards, see page 1 of this *Ham Chatter* issue. - W4YDY

BARC Board Minutes - December 2008

Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club
Board Meeting Minutes
December 30, 2008

Call to Order: President Terry Monday, K4ZYD, brought the meeting to order at 19:42 hours.

Board Members Present: Terry Monday, K4ZYD (President); Bob Moore, N4USB (First VP); Ted Bertrand, KI4PWX (Second VP); Richard Cox, K4CRD (Treasurer); Dave Pulver, KG4CZV (Trustee); John Prokop, N8MPX (Trustee). A quorum was present.

Others in Attendance: Dave Langley, W4YDY; Taylor Millar, W4WTM, Bonnie Pulver, KG4CZW; Pat Williams KG4NSC; Mike Langley, KD4MTT

Minutes: One correction in 11/25/08 minutes, Change Dave Barnes to Dave Bowers. The minutes were approved as modified.

Secretary's Report: No report.

Treasurer's Report: Richard Cox made the report and it is available to members upon request.

Health and welfare: No report.

Equipment: No report

Ham Chatter: Dave Langley presented the fact that the red dots will appear on the March newsletter, which will symbolize that a member is past due. In 60 days, members will be dropped

from the membership. This is according to the Constitution. Also, the password for the rosters on the club web site will be change about March 1 for members only.

Publicity: No report.

New Member presented for Review: K8HP Harry Pliscof approved.

Programs: Ted Bertrand announced that the January program will be presented by Doug Blizzard, N4HAJ, representing the Baptist Men's Disaster Relief.

VE: No one applied for examination at December's VE session. The next session is February 13, 2009 at the St. Peter's Catholic School library.

ARES: No report

Old Business: No old business was discussed.

New Business: [The transfer of duties from outgoing officers to incoming officers was discussed and performed](#)

Announcements: There were no announcements.

Adjournment: by Terry Monday at 20:03 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Pulver
KG4CZW

Al Waller, K3TKJ, transfers QSL.NET to KA9FOX

All QSL.NET web sites temporarily down. Thousands out of service.

All web sites presently go to a page with a letter from K3TKJ instead of their sites. KA9FOX hopes to have them back up soon. There have been many problems for the past couple of years because they were probably overloaded on space and time. K3TKJ is to be commended for his time and expense (BARC did make donations) keeping the site up, but it seems to have overloaded him. BARC is lucky that the W4AMC.COM site is now in operation because it could be several days or longer before the QSL.NET sites are back online. Updates on the status of the migration are below the letter on QSL.NET. Letter on QSL.NET follows:

Dear fellow hams,

After 13 years of providing hams with no cost web space, e-mail forwarding and mailing list services through QSL.net and QTH.net, I have decided to retire. All QSL.net and QTH.net servers and Internet connections at my home QTH are being turned down.

Scott KA9FOX has graciously decided to pick up where I left off, and he is in the process of migrating all services to new hardware.

I want to thank all of you for all of your support over the years, and I hope that you will support Scott as he takes over the reigns.

See you on the air!

73 - Al Waller, K3TKJ

December 31, 2008

Frequency change for Canadian Time Station CHU

After 70 years of broadcasting Canada's official time, the National Research Council's shortwave station CHU <http://inms-ienm.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/time_services/shortwave_broadcasts_e.html> moved the transmission frequency for the 7335 kHz transmitter to 7850 kHz. The change went into effect at 0000 UTC on January 1, 2009.

Broadcasting 24 hours a day, CHU is a part of NRC's system for disseminating official time throughout Canada. Listeners hear tones to mark the seconds, a voice to announce the time in French and English and digital data to set computers. The atomic clocks at CHU are part of the ensemble of clocks in the time and frequency research laboratories at the National Research Council Canada in Ottawa. The NRC clocks are used in conjunction with clocks in the time laboratories of other countries to construct the internationally accepted scale of time, UTC (Coordinated Universal Time). Time transmissions on 3330 and 14670 kHz are not affected and will continue as before.

In April 2007, the ITU reallocated the 7300-7350 kHz band from the fixed service to the broadcasting service. Since

then, the NRC said there has been a lot of interference on the 7335 kHz frequency from many information broadcasters around the world. "CHU listeners in Canada and around the world who have for so long considered the 7335 kHz frequency exclusively for time signals, are very vocal about this interference," said Raymond Pelletier, Technical Officer at the NRC-Institute for National Measurement Standards, who oversees the CHU facility. "We have heard from Amateur Radio operators, watchmakers, astronomers and navigators who use the tones and voice signals. We also received comments from those who use the carrier as a calibration source at a distance for their equipment."

Pelletier noted in December that a leap second <http://inms-ienm.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/faq_time_e.html> would be added at the end of December 2008; this will be indicated in the digital code until the time of the leap second. DUT1 will go from -0.6 to +0.4 seconds and will be indicated by double tones near the start of the minute and in the broadcast code <http://inms-ienm.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/time_services/chu_e.html>. - via ARRL Letter Online 12/19/08

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, W4YDY or
email **barc@w4amc.com**

Help support *Ham Chatter* and the club.
Donations accepted!

NETS

VHF

- ◆ BARC Net, Mondays, 2000 on 147.09 MHz, W4GDF Repeater.
- ◆ Pitt County Emergency Communications Net, Mondays, 2100 on 147.09 MHz. (131.8 Hz Tone)
- ◆ Kinston Amateur Radio Society Net, 1,3,4 Tuesdays, 2000 hrs. on 145.47 MHz., W4OIX repeater in Kinston.
- ◆ Eastern North Carolina Traffic Net, Every night, 2030 on 146.685 MHz.
- ◆ Wilson Amateur Radio Club Net, Monday 2000 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 Ahoskie 145.13, Buxton 145.15, Columbia 146.835 & 443.30, Elizabeth City 146.655, Greenville, 145.35, Hertford 147.33, Williamston 145.41 & 444.25

HF

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

NTS CW Nets

- ◆ 3.571 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

Pitt County Repeater Association

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

2009 Membership Dues

It's that time of the year once again. Membership dues for BARC will be due January 1. Membership dues are as follows and are the same as 2008:

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

We are requesting that you send the application form in, so that we can have your correct information on file. The form can be downloaded at <http://www.w4amc.com/application.pdf>.

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

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

Those who have not renewed their dues by March 1, 2009 will be removed from the roster and the Ham Chatter mailing list. Membership will be reinstated upon receipt of 2009 dues.

If there are any questions concerning membership status or dues, please contact Dave Pulver, KG4CZV (2009 Treasurer) at <kg4czv@gmail.com> or (252) 353-7161. Thank you for your continued support and participation in BARC.

BARC

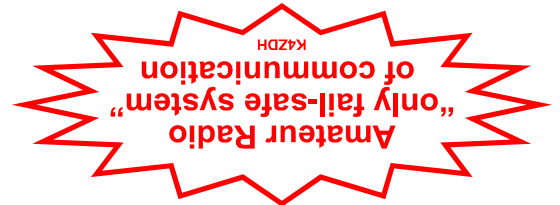
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

| | | | |
|---------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| Jan 13. | Regular Meeting | Mar 10. | Regular Meeting |
| Jan 17/18 | ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes | Mar 28/29 | CQ WW WPX SSB Contest |
| Jan 24/25 | CQ WW CW 160 Meter Contest | Mar 31. | Board Meeting |
| Jan 27. | Board Meeting | Apr 2. | Ham Chatter Deadline |
| Jan 29. | Ham Chatter Deadline | Apr 5. | Down East Hamfest, Kinston, NC |
| Feb 7. | Frostfest, Richmond, VA | Apr 11. | RARSfest, Raleigh, NC |
| Feb 10. | Regular Meeting | Apr 13 | Regular Meeting |
| Feb 20. | BARC VE Session | Apr 17 | BARC VE Session |
| Feb 14/15 | CQ WPX RTTY Contest | Apr 28 | Board Meeting |
| Feb 21/22 | CQ WW SSB 160M Contest | Apr 30 | Ham Chatter Deadline |
| Feb 21/22 | ARRL CW DX Contest | May 12. | Regular Meeting |
| Feb 21/22 | NA QSO Party - RTTY | May 26. | Board Meeting |
| Feb 24. | Board Meeting | | |
| Mar 5. | Ham Chatter Deadline | | |
| Mar 7/8 | ARRL SSB DX Contest | | |

Regular Meeting - Second 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 1 V O A - W 4 A M C - W 4 U H S



January 2009
Next Meeting
January 13

To:



Ham Chatter
Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club
PO Box 8387
Greenville, NC 27835