

Ham Chatter



Volume 50 Issue 1

An Official BARC, W4AMC, Publication

January 2016

Editor, Joe Jeansonne, WB4JOE

Email: jljeansonne775@my.pittcc.edu

FCC Proposes \$25,000 Penalty for Causing Intentional Interference

The FCC Enforcement Bureau has proposed fining William F. Crowell, W6WBJ (ex-N6AYJ), of Diamond Springs, California, \$25,000 for intentionally interfering with other Amateur Radio operators and transmitting prohibited communications, including music. FCC San Francisco District Director David K. Hartshorn released a Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture (NAL) on December 18, detailing the allegations. An Advanced class licensee, Crowell is no stranger to the Enforcement Bureau, which had warned him as far back as 2000 about intentional interference. In 2008 the FCC designated his current license renewal application for hearing, alleging that he had caused intentional interference, interrupted others' communications, transmitted music, and made one-way transmissions, including some containing "indecent language," the FCC said. His license, which expired in 2007, has not been renewed, but Crowell may continue to operate while his application is pending. Prompting the December 18 NAL were complaints earlier this year by members of the Western Amateur Radio Friendship Association (WARFA), which conducts nets three times a week on 75 meters. "Deliberate interference undermines the utility of the Amateur Radio Service by preventing communications among licensed users that comply with the Commission's rules," the FCC said in its NAL. "Mr Crowell's deliberate interference to other users, using voice, noises, and music, directly contravenes the Amateur Radio service's fundamental purpose as a voluntary noncommercial communications service..."

The Enforcement Bureau recounted that its agents and the High Frequency Direction Finding (HFDF) Center monitored Crowell's transmissions during the WARFA Net on 3908 kHz on August 25 and August 27. As the agents and the HFDF Center listened, Crowell "repeatedly interrupted other amateurs using noises, recordings, and music, in addition to talking over amateurs affiliated with the WARFA Net, so as not to allow them to transmit on the frequency," the FCC said in its NAL. "His transmissions and recordings included racial, ethnic, and sexual slurs and epithets." According to the NAL, the interference continued until the net shut down. During an inspection of his station, Crowell acknowledged to FCC agents that he operates on 3908 kHz among other frequencies on most nights, and that he was transmitting on the evening of August 27. The agents warned Crowell that his transmissions violated the Communications Act and FCC rules. Crowell asserted that playing recordings was not against the rules and, the FCC reported, "that he would continue to operate his amateur station as he had been doing." The FCC said on August 30, the HFDF Center again monitored Crowell "using his amateur station to engage in the same types of intentional interfering transmissions during the meeting time for the WARFA Net." Crowell was given 30 days from the release of the NAL to pay the forfeiture or to file in writing seeking reduction or cancellation of the proposed penalty.

- via ARRL (<http://bit.ly/1JpXz3u>)

Next Meeting - Jan 12, 2016

The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club will have its Regular Meeting on Tuesday, January 12, at VFW Post Home 7032 on 1108 Mumford Road in Greenville. The program will be about DMR (Digital Mobile Radio) by William Burden, WB4YNF, and friends from Ahoskie.

Macon Dail, WB4PMQ, has plans to convert his 440 repeater to DMR. All members, families and guests are invited to attend.

General License Class

By WCARA

1/26./2016-3/1/2016

18:00-21:00

Cost is **FREE**

@

Wayne Community College

Info: pete@wene.net

BARC Board Meeting

The next board meeting will be Tuesday, January 26 at 7:30 PM at VFW Post Home 7032 on 1108 Mumford Road in Greenville. All members invited.

CQ World Wide Participants Favor Limiting Operating Time to Less Than 48 Hours

According to Part 2 of the 2015 CQ World Wide Contests survey results, contesters want to see a time-limited category for single operators. In September the CQ WW Contest Committee surveyed everyone who had submitted a log in the 2014 CQ WW SSB and CW events, and issued a public invitation on the cq-contest e-mail reflector. CQ WW Contest Director Randy Thompson, K5ZD, said the committee received 5117 responses from contest operators around the world to Part 2 of the survey, which addressed possible rule changes. A vast majority of respondents answered "yes" to the question, "Do you support limiting the operating time of single operator entrants to less than 48 hours?" Currently single operators may operate for the entire 48-hour contest period.

"This question was designed to determine how broadly the interest in a time-limited category might be,"

Thompson said in the survey report. "We were surprised at the high level of support for a time limit. It was even more surprising to see that the majority of support was coming from Europe. Even more interesting that it was serious competitors who wanted this change. While older ages were more in favor, the results were fairly consistent across all."

According to the survey, 2775 respondents answered "yes," and 1638 said "no," while 694 offered no opinion.

A review of CQ World Wide entries for 2015 showed that approximately 90 percent of SSB operators stay in the chair for fewer than 30 hours, while some 90 percent of CW entrants operate fewer than 35 hours.

-via ARRL (<http://bit.ly/1Jq1Y6u>)



Happy Birthday

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

06 W4ESO Frank Spencer

Additions or corrections to WB4JOE

Well Wishes

Thoughts and Prayers go out to the following:

Charlie Wells, K4SKI

Tom Parsons, W4TEP

Please inform Gerry Clayton, K4IDD, gclayton4@suddenlink.net of any changes.



Next VE Session

The next Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club VE session will be held **Tuesday, February 16, 2015** at the VFW Post Home 7032 on 1108 Mumford Road and will start promptly at 6:30 PM. Email Steve Horne II, KB5B, VE Liaison at 07jkrubi@gmail.com. Walk-ins welcome. Please bring the following **required**:

- ◆ **Photo ID** (drivers license)
- ◆ **Original** Amateur Radio License
- ◆ **Copy** of Amateur Radio License
- ◆ **Original** CSCE's
- ◆ **Copy** of CSCE
- ◆ Test fee is \$15.00 .
- ◆ Proof of Tech Plus if before 3/21/87 and doing paper upgrade to General.
- ◆ SS Number will be needed if you don't have an FRN number. *

* **More info** at <http://www.w4amc.com/barcinfo.html#VE>.

NC ARES Internet

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

Pitt County ARES

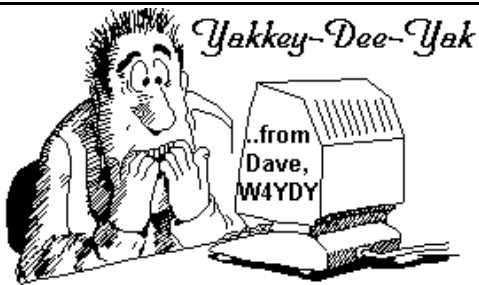
EC needed!



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In case you haven't looked at the W4AMC.COM web site lately, it was updated several times in December with late news about VE Sessions, 2016 Officers, meeting info, awards presented at the Christmas party and some pictures of the December Christmas party. Be sure to check the What's New page to see what was updated.

I have been editing the web site since July 1996 when the club authorized me to start one for the club. It was a learning project for me since I did not have any training for such a task. It was a simple site and I guess it still is a site from the 1990 original format. I have not taken the time to study the fancy bells and whistles the modern sites use so it has not changed much except to add data, including 216 issues of *Ham Chatter* that I starting editing in June 1997. Also, there are a few issues of *Ham Chatter* from 1982. They were supplied by Tom Forrest, N4GVK, Editor at that time. There is very interesting history and pictures that include much younger members and some are still very active members. I may do a review of them in a future article so you will see what you are missing if you have not looked at them.

Ham Chatter is now edited by Joe Jeansson, KB4JOE and it is uploaded each month. Over 90% of the members get *Ham Chatter* via the web site and it has saved a lot of postage. There are 23 videos and 47 pages of pictures member activities on the web site. One of our new members, Mike Monteith, KM4OLT, has agreed to take over the duties of the web site. He has a lot of computer program training and experi-

Brightleaf 2016 Dues

Membership dues for BARC are due January 1. 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 in April. Membership dues are the same as they were in 2015 and are as follows:

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

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

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

If anyone has any questions concerning their membership status or their dues, please email Jeff Meyer, **K4DKW**, BARC Treasurer, at [jef-freymeyer55 @ gmail.com](mailto:jef-freymeyer55@gmail.com) (remove spaces in email address). **Thank you for your support and participation in BARC.**

ence. Hopefully sometime in early 2016, the changeover can be accomplished. You should see a more modern web site when he takes over.

It's also that time of the year, January 1, to update your dues. Several have already mailed or given their dues to the now temporary Treasurer, Jeff, K4DKW. Someone please step up and volunteer to take the position. Jeff is now the President of the club so it's not fair for him to do two jobs when there are so many able to help. Everything is already set up so the learning curve is very small and it does not take much time. Surely someone can help out and volunteer like Joe and Mike did. They both told me that they wanted to give something back to BARC and Amateur Radio for the privilege of having a radio license.

It looks like the 'toot toot' train caught up with me and I got railroaded! I ended up being selected

as Second Vice President and according to the BARC Constitution, Article III, Section 3, "*The Second Vice President shall coordinate a program for each membership meeting, and perform such other duties as the President may assign. In the absence of the President and First Vice President, the Second Vice President shall officiate.*" That means I must come up with some programs for the club meetings. I have a few in mind but still must get commitments for most. If anyone has any program that you think the members would be interested in seeing, please let me know.

The January program will be about Digital Mobile Radio (DRM). Macon Dail, WB4PMQ, is considering changing his 444.8 repeater to DRM. It should be a good program to learn about the new digital mode. It will require a new digital radio for one to operate on the repeater.

Happy New Year! Dave, W4YDY

Florida Ham Agrees to Penalty for Failure to Identify

The FCC Enforcement Bureau has entered into a consent decree with a Florida radio amateur to resolve an investigation into whether the licensee violated Sections 97.113(b) and 97.119(a) of the FCC rules by transmitting one-way communications and failing to identify. As part of the deal, Thomas J. Warren, K3TW, of Lecanto, Florida, will pay a monetary penalty. The FCC issued an Order incorporating the Consent Decree on December 9 in the case, which dates back to June 2015.

“In response to complaints that an unidentified station was transmitting on an Amateur Radio frequency at 14 MHz, FCC agents determined that the transmissions were coming from Mr Warren’s residence,” the FCC said in its December 9 Order.

“To settle this matter, Mr Warren admits that he failed to transmit his assigned call sign, violated the Commission’s rules, will report any noncompliance with rules governing the Amateur Radio Service, and will pay a \$3500 civil penalty.”

The Consent Decree provided a few more details of the case. The FCC recounted that, after tracking down the unidentified transmissions to Warren’s residence, Warren conceded that he had not identified at least some transmissions that he’d made that day. “The agents issued an on-scene written warning to Mr Warren regarding the violations,” the FCC said in the Consent Decree. “In his written response to the warning, Mr Warren acknowledged that he may have failed to transmit his station identifi-

cation as required on June 25, 2015.”

According to the Consent Decree, Warren’s transmissions “related to an ongoing dispute with another Amateur Radio operator, whose intentional interference had allegedly disrupted communications on the American Foreign Service Net that operates weekly on 14.316 MHz.”

The FCC said the Consent Decree terminates its investigation, and that it will not use facts established during the investigation and through the effective date of the Consent Decree to institute any new proceeding or take further action against Warren regarding the matters that were the subject of the investigation.

-via ARRL (<http://bit.ly/1JpYG3j>)

December 2015 BARC VE Session Results

On the December 15, 2015 BARC VE session, eight candidates passed the Technician exam.

Successful candidates on Element 2 were **Charlie Langley**, KM4PZT, Ayden, **James Sutbbins**, KM4PZU, Farmville, **Charlie Meadows**, KM4PZY, Greenville, **Gary Faust**, KM4PZZ, Chocowinity, **Brian Hodges**, KM4ZW,

Washington, **Steven Hodges**, KM4PZS, Washington, **Christopher Boyd**, KM4PZV, Belhaven, and **Benjamin Huffman**, KM4PZW, Greenville. Their new call signs were granted on December 23. BARC congratulates all for their accomplishment.

The VE's that attended were VE Liaison **Steve Horne II**, KB5B,

Morris Lewis, AK4MU, **Dan Wallace**, K4HMW, **Prentice Tyndall, Jr.** N4VBH, **Terry Monday**, K4ZYD and **Dave Langley**, W4YDY.

The next regular BARC VE session is scheduled for

February 16, 2016

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: Joe Jeansonne** or email to: **barc @ w4amc.com** (no spaces)

I will be selling some equipment of K4LEN SK , Len Downing, prices pretty much firm. Equipment pristine condition. Alpha 8100 spare set of finals mint about 5 hours box

manual 5000.000—Palstar 5k dummy load — Kenwood tm 741a 2 / 220/ 440 mint with triplexers 600.00 each or both 1000.00—Some other equipment is being burned in and check along with organizing boxes/ manuals / accessories boxes. Will not ship large equipment at this time.
call Neal 252-946-3840 between 11 am and 5 pm and/or leave message




FOR SALE: Ameritron ALS-600 solid-state HF amp, (1.5-30 MHz) and MFJ-994B 600W auto-tuner package. Amp has manual band-switching only (SN 12965) 50-75W drive for 500W output. Heavy (36 lbs.) analog PS set to 240V input. Line taps and fuses can be changed for 120V. With manuals, no dents, no scratches. Both for \$600 cash. John, W4FA, 252-355-3415

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**
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K4ZYD

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BARC Christmas Party - December 8, 2015

The annual Christmas party was held December 8 and everyone had a good time along with good food. After the meal, Terry Monday, K4ZYD, passed out the annual awards. The Peer awards were as follows: Ham of the Year, Jeff Meyer, K4DKW; OM of the Year, John McCoy, K4KBB; YL of the Year, Rita Pulera, KI6BPT; Elmer of the Year, Terry Monday, K4ZYD; New Ham of the Year, Mike Monteith, KM4OLT.



Jeff Meyer, K4DKW, left, was surprised when he was announced for the BARC Ham of the Year. Terry Monday, K4ZYD presented the award.

A plaque was given to President Terry Monday, K4ZYD, for his service. Certificates were awarded to the other 2015 Officers. They were First VP Gerry Clayton, K4IDD; Second VP: John McCoy, K4KBB; Secretary: Taylor Millar, W4WTM; Treasurer: Jeff Meyer, K4DKW; Board Member Richard Campbell, W4JNC; and Board Member: Morris Lewis, AK4MU.

Certificates were awarded to the support team. They were Public Relations, Taylor Millar, W4WTM; W4AMC/W1VOA/W4UHS Trustee: Tom Parsons; W4TEP,

Ham Chatter Editor: Joe Jeansonne, WB4JOE; W4AMC.COM Editor, Dave Langley, W4YDY; Past Ham Chatter Editor, Dave Langley, W4YDY (18 years ended in May 2015).

Certificates were awarded to Steve Horne, II, AB5B, Volunteer Examiner (VE) Liaison and VEs Dan Wallace, K4HMW, Richard Campbell, W4JNC, Morris Lewis, AK4MU, Joseph Swigert, N4JNC, Dave Langley, W4YDY, Prentice Tyn-dall, N4VBH, Thomas Styron, KB7L, Gary Coriell, KE5ACR, Terry Monday, K4ZYD, and Byron Highland, K4BMH. (Pictures at BARC 2015 Christmas Party page)

Congratulations to all. Without members participation, there would be no Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club!

Estate Sale of N4KDR (SK)

- K6VHF foot switch, model #FS101 - \$15
- K6VHF Hs-101c headset adapter cable for Icom - \$15
- Jennings Variable Inductor with motor - \$100
- MFJ Practice Code Oscillator w/key - \$25
- 5 - Alpha Delta Surge Protectors, model #TTEGO, new/not used has type N connectors - \$15 each.
- 2 - Six meter Halo antennas, one round, one square—Please call
- Homebrew antenna tuner, 10 – 80 meter, no SWR meter, very good condition - \$50
- NooElec NESDR Mini HF bundle, which includes Ham It Up v1.3 RF Upconverter for Software Defined Radio, and NooElec R820T SDR & DVB-T Flash drive, cables, and antenna - \$60

The “Packaged Sale” was purchased new in June of 2013, and has had very little use. \$900

For further information and pictures contact
Dave Tabbutt
W3DET
w3det@arrl.net
cell: 252-944-3660

Packaged Sale

Complete HF station includes

- Icom 7200, 100 Watt, HF Transceiver, 6 – 80 meters, mic, manual, boxes.
- Power-werx 30 amp. Switching power supply
- LDG Auto Tuner IT-100, cables , box
- MFJ 822 – SWR, Watt meter, hf/vhf, 300W

Straight Key Night is a New Year's Day Tradition

Every day is a good day to operate on CW, but set some time aside on New Year's Eve and Day to enjoy Straight Key Night (SKN). The annual event gets under way a 0000 UTC on January 1, 2016 (New Year's Eve in US time zones). The 24 hour event is not a contest but a day dedicated to celebrating our CW heritage. Participants are encouraged to get on the air and simply enjoy conversational CW contacts, preferably using a straight (hand) key or a semi-automatic key (bug). Activity traditionally

centers on CW segments in the HF bands. There are no points or obligatory exchange. The only requirement is just to have fun!

Send your SKN list of stations worked and your votes for “Best Fist” and “Most Interesting QSO” by January 31.

Concurrent with the ARRL Straight Key Night, AMSAT will hold its own SKN on OSCAR 2015, this year dedicated to the memory of Ben Stevenson, W2BXA, who died in 2011. Operate CW through any

amateur satellite from on New Year's Day 2016, using a manual (ie, non-electronic) key. No log is necessary, but AMSAT also asks for “Best Fist” nominees via e-mail to Ray Soifer, W2RS.

Stevenson, who was licensed in 1929, was one of the world's top DXers on HF and satellites and held Satellite DXCC No 1. He was the founding president of the North Jersey DX Association.

-via ARRL (<http://bit.ly/1Jq1nlm>)

Scouting's Jamboree On The Air (JOTA) Participation Dips for Third Year

Despite what the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) called "solid results from an exciting JOTA weekend," Scout participation for the October 2015 event was reported down by 8 percent from 2014, although the number of registered stations and station reports remained about the same. The BSA said 7117 Scouts took part in JOTA 2015. The number of visitors, at 5138, was also down by 8 percent. The Boy Scouts said only 60 percent of registered stations — 208 — filed a station report, so the report may represent only part of the activity. The 346 total stations registered for JOTA 2015 represented a slight improvement from 2014, however.

"The total number of Scout councils involved dropped from 149 to 127," said the report posted by National Jamboree On The Air Organizer Jim Wilson, K5ND. "Therein lies our big challenge — getting the word out to local Scout councils about the biggest Scouting event in the world and how they can participate."

Participation took a big jump in 2012, with 18,566 Scouts and visitors. In 2013, however, participation was down by nearly 4700, and it slipped further in 2014.

On a more positive note, 208 JOTA-participating stations have filed reports. That's up 1 percent over last year's event. In all, JOTA stations worked 106 countries, as 979 Amateur Radio operators put 847 radios on the air to make 8360 contacts — all up from 2014.

"The most memorable thing was the Scouts who absolutely said they weren't getting on the air. But when they

did, you couldn't pry the mic out of their hands," said Philip Jacobs, W2GSB, at the K2S JOTA special event station. "They turned out to be some of the best Scout ops we had."

The Scouts blamed persistent challenges from propagation, contesting, a lack of council involvement, and failing to get information to those who needed it. "Propagation and contesting will remain ongoing problems. "Changes to the Worked All Germany contest to reserve JOTA frequencies have been helpful," the Scouts reported. "[We] need to activate a similar arrangement with USA-based QSO Parties in New York, Iowa, Illinois, and South Dakota."

Looking ahead to JOTA 2016, the Scouts are planning "consistent, persistent, and even relentless communication...to increase awareness of available information." Wilson said Scout Council awareness of JOTA remains low, and efforts will be made to communicate through Council International representatives, active Scouters, and existing Boy Scouts of America channels to reach both professionals and volunteers. The BSA said the worldwide registration system used this year in conjunction with Jamboree On The Internet (JOTI) encountered several problems leading up to JOTA weekend, including a system shutdown. "More work is required here with reliability and ease of use," the BSA said.

JOTA 2015 took place over the October 16-18 weekend.

-via ARRL (<http://bit.ly/1Jq17CN>)

NETS VHF/UHF

- ◆ BARC Net, Mondays, 2000 on 147.09 MHz, W4GDF Repeater.
- ◆ Newport SkyWarn Tues. nights 2100E Grifton-146.685-88.5 tone Newport-145.450.....
IRLP 8561 links to Columbia Jacksonville-147.000- 88.5 tone Oriental-147.210-151.4 tone 444 Newport-444.825- 88.5 tone Swansboro-146.760- 88.5 tone
- ◆ Grantsboro-145 230 - 85.4 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, Thursdays @ 2000 on 146.76 MHz.
- ◆ Piedmont Coastal Traffic Net, Nightly 2030 on 146.88 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

Greenville repeaters

147.09/69 - 145.35/144.75

444.8/449.8

All use 131.8 tone

BARC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Jan 12..... Regular Meeting	Mar 8..... Regular Meeting
Jan 26..... Board Meeting	Mar 26/27..... CQ WW SSB WPX Contest
Jan 29/31..... CQ WW CW 160M Contest	Mar 29..... Board Meeting
Feb 6..... Richmond Frostfest **	Apr 2..... RARSfest - Raleigh **
Feb 9..... Regular Meeting	
Feb 13/14..... CQ WPX RTTY Contest	Regular Meeting - 2nd Tuesday @ 7:30 PM
Feb 16..... VE Exam	Board Meeting - Last Tuesday @ 7:30 PM
Feb 20/21..... ARRL CW DX Contest	
Feb 23..... Board Meeting	
Feb 26/28..... CQ WW SSB 160M Contest	
Mar 5/6..... ARRL SSB DX Contest	<i>**Hamfests</i>

BARC 2 METER NET - MONDAY NIGHTS AT 8:00 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



**JAN 2016
Next Meeting
Jan 12, 2016**

To:



Ham Chatter
Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club
PO Box 8387
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