

# HAM CHATTER



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November 2017

Editor, Joe Jeansonne, WB4JOE

Email: hamchatter @ w4amc.com

## American Red Cross Hails “New Partnership” with ARRL Following Puerto Rico Deployment

The American Red Cross (ARC) this week [thanked ARRL](#) and its “Force of 50” hurricane recovery volunteers who deployed to Puerto Rico earlier this month, and it suggested a new level of partnership now exists between the two organizations. ARC Senior Vice President, Disaster Cycle Services Harvey Johnson this week wrote ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, and ARRL CEO Tom Gallagher, NY2RF, to express his organization’s gratitude for “all your amazing volunteers for the unwavering commitment demonstrated during the response to this unprecedented disaster in Puerto Rico.” Johnson said the team’s actions “made a significant difference” in the lives of those affected.

“This mission marked an exciting new path for our two organizations with it being the first time we deployed ARRL volunteers to a Red Cross relief operation,” Johnson wrote. “I continue to hear incredible stories about how the ARRL volunteers supported individuals, communities, and partner organizations during their time in Puerto Rico.” The ARRL and the American Red Cross have a long-standing memorandum of understanding (MOU) to cooperate in emergencies and disasters.

“It was a complex cooperation in an austere environment, and the mission certainly had its challenges,” Johnson continued. “While we have much to learn from this new experience and areas to improve upon, we remain committed to working with you, ARRL, and your cadre of talented volunteers.”

Johnson singled out for special praise ARRL Emergency Response Manager Mike Corey, KI1U, “for his leadership in planning and managing the mission.”

“Mike was fast acting and thoughtful, constantly working to make the mission effective through transparency and collaboration,” Johnson said. “We simply could not have achieved the outcomes without him.”

Johnson said the ARC looks forward to working together with ARRL to “serve those impacted by disasters.”

- via ARRL @ <http://bit.ly/2AFdfxJ>

## Next Meeting November 14, 2017

The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club will have its regular meeting at 7:30 PM Tuesday, November 14, at VFW Post 7032 on 1108 Mumford Road in Greenville. The program: Peter Van Houten, **KG4WEZ**, will demonstrate a logging program on the MAC computer and Dave Langley, **W4YDY**, will demo the PDA LOGic 9 logging program on a PC. Also annual elections for 2018 BARC Officers will be held. Also by secret ballot, peer awards will be selected and announced and presented at the annual Christmas party in December. The selections will be BARC Ham of the Year, OM of the Year, YL of the Year, New Ham of the Year and Elmer of the Year.

All members, families and guests are invited to attend.



## BARC Board Meeting

The next board meeting will be Tuesday, Nov 28 at 7:30 PM at the Offices of Monday & Monday, (CPA), Suite D, East Victoria Court. All members invited.

## Important BARC Notes for Decemeber's Meeting

### BARC officer elections at November meeting.

The following nominees were nominated at the September club meeting. A vote will be held during the meeting. The elected officers will be presented at the December Christmas party.

#### President

Gary Coriell, KK4GC

#### First Vice President

Dave Wood, W4EJ

#### Second Vice President

Peter Van Houten, KG4WEZ

#### Treasurer

Jeff Meyer, K4DKW

#### Secretary

Bill Dawson, WA4SLC

#### Trustee

Pat Williams, KG4NSC

#### Trustee

Bernard Nobles, WA4MOK



*Happy  
Birthday*

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

03 AF4QY Bob Hanrahan  
03 KM4OLT Mike Monteith  
05 N4RXX Rita Sumrell  
08 KD4NHZ Walter Allen  
11 W4EJ Dave Wood

Additions or corrections to KB4JOE

### Peer Award selections at November meeting

November is when members have a secret vote for peer awards as follows:

**Ham of the Year**  
**New Ham of the Year**  
**OM of the Year**  
**YL of the Year**  
**Elmer of the Year**

Ballots will be passed out to members and collected at the end of the meeting. Be thinking about your vote. Someone will take and count them for the announcement at the December Christmas Party.

For the Ham of the Year Award, club members are only eligible if they have not received one in the past 3 years. The following are NOT eligible: Peter Van Houten, KG4WEZ, Jeff Meyer, K4DKW and Terry Monday, K4ZYD.

### *Well Wishes*

Thoughts and Prayers go out to the following:

Please inform Joe Jeansonne, KB4JOE, of any changes.

## Next VE Session

Exams will be held on Tuesday, December 19, 2017 at VFW Post 7032 on 1108 Mumford Road in Greenville, NC. Exams will start promptly at 6:30 PM. For more info email Gary, KK4GC at [ve@w4amc.com](mailto:ve@w4amc.com). (remove spaces) Study material at <http://www.arrl.org/coursestraining>. 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://bit.ly/1FOhE1S>.

## NC ARES Internet

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

**Pitt County ARES  
EC needed!**



## In this Issue..

American Red Cross Hails "New Partnership" with ARRL Following Puerto Rico Deployment ..... 1  
Important BARC Notes for Decemeber's Meeting..... 2  
Situational Awareness: A Key to Your Safety ..... 4  
October 2017 BARC VE Session Results..... 4  
Join Us For Skywarn Recognition Day 2017..... 6  
"Force of 50" Volunteers' Puerto Rico Hurricane Recovery Mission Ends..... 7  
BARC  
CALENDAR OF EVENTS..... 8

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The end of Yakkey-Dee-Yak from Dave (or President) columns may be coming to an end before long. My first column was started in 1969 when I was railroaded into being editor of the first Raleigh Amateur Radio Society News.

I was told it would only last a few months to get it started. That lasted for 4 1/2 years. Moved to OKC for a couple of years and railroaded the newsletter duties over to Charlie Swindell, WB-4DCM. He still reminds me of that when I see him occasionally.

The next time I did a column, it was Yakkey-Dee-Yak from the President in the Oklahoma City Collector and Emitter. Past issues are at <http://w5nor.org/ce/>. My column can still be seen for the first months of 1977. It was a newsletter that included eight Amateur Radio clubs. Seven were in Oklahoma City. I was President of the Aeronautical Amateur Radio Club, W5PAA, in 1977 until I moved back to North Carolina. The club is located at the FAA Aeronautical Center that includes the FAA Academy.

The Center is located on the West side of Will Rogers International Airport. It was during that time that I received the Second Station call sign, K5NC. The FCC dropped all Second Station calls and mine expired in 1982.

I decided to keep W4YDY instead of K5NC. The '5' made it confusing to many and I think it would to this day. I used it for the first 6 months of 1982 and it just wasn't comfortable.

Yakkey-Dee-Yak was better than No Count! I really blew it when I volunteered to be the editor of Ham Chatter in 1977. So now I have been writing the column plus many other stories for over 20 year for this newsletter. That's a total of over 25 years of columns. I think I have done enough.

I'm still sending the newsletter to the printer, picking them up and carrying copies to Batteries Plus & Bulbs and to Sheppard Library. Also still writing updates to the w4amc.com web site that the club approved for me to start in 1996. Then there still the roster that ended up with me for the exact reason I don't know. Murphy's been hanging around with me to much lately.

Some may have heard that I was having trouble with Embarqmail/Centurylinkmail that was flagging my email to those addresses as spam. It cleared up about 5 or 6 weeks later. I complained to then with no luck but they must have had a lot of other complaints 'cause they finally fixed it! I am still sending out notices to the club as requested. Also I have a list of about 50 non-members that are on the notification list for Ham Chatter each month.

I'm not trying to hold on to it so someone needs to get the list from me in case I have comput-

er trouble, etc.

Then my antenna system decided to go South! High SWR on most bands. Seems like the beam is working again but don't have any luck from 160 meters to 40 meters. 30 meters works a little bit at times with strong signals. I think I have some bad connections in my coax runs of about 180 feet. I just hope it's not the ones that's underground. Got to get to work on that. Seems like there's always something else that I had rather do at the times I can work on it.

The new mode, JT8, is the big thing now. Loaded it up at the end of October and seeing a lot of signals on most all bands but haven't figured out the transmission end yet. Got it controlling the -transmitter frequency but can't get the Push-To-Talk to key the transmitter. I have 4 digital programs that key the rig properly with PTT but the JT8 program fails. Also don't know if the audio for transmission is working since I haven't been able to key the transmitter. It may be something with my interface between the radio and computer that I built in 2000 when I got on PSK.

I just need to take some time reading the instructions and watching some videos online. Back to the drawing board!

- Dave, W4YDY

## Situational Awareness: A Key to Your Safety

I recently read an article on the <https://www.doomandbloom.net/> website titled "Vehicular Terror: The Easiest Blueprint To Create Mayhem" which talks about vehicular events such as those in London, Niece, Berlin and the recent NYC attack.

Joe Alton, M.D., AKA Dr. Bones, writes articles on survival and preparedness, often citing recent events. Please take some time to visit his website as you make plans to protect yourself and loved ones. As part of his recent article "Dr. Bones" discusses the need to be "situationally aware" at all times, citing parts of an article titled "Just Terror Tactics" published by the English-language ISIS magazine "Rumiyah".

In the article in Rumiyah, tactics are discussed for the best use of vehicles as a weapon. I won't reprint it all here, I would not do the information justice. It needs to be read in full for maximum effect. The part that struck me most was: The writer also suggested attackers weld steel

blades onto the front of an SUV: "They do not need to be extra sharp because with the speed of the truck at the time of impact, even a blunter edge would slice through bone very easily.

You may raise the level of the blades as high as the headlights. That would make the blades strike your targets at the torso level or higher." Here in Eastern North Carolina, and probably most coastal areas, we are used to seeing rod holders and cooler mounts on the front of trucks. Stop for a minute and think about how similar rod holders can appear in a flash to steel blades onto the front of an SUV. If you passed one driving down the highway how long would it take your subconscious to process what it had seen? Would it be in time? Many of us practice situational awareness to some degree.

Motorcycle riders while on the bike, drivers while in their vehicle, first responders on the job, boaters on the water and parents of young children in the

home environs. But how many carry the awareness through to our everyday surroundings? It is unfortunate that today we must look at most things around us a threat of some kind, from the nourishment for our bodies to the air that we breathe.

No one wants to have to be acutely on-guard all of the time, so one answer might be situational awareness. Dr. Bones calls for "...a constant state of Yellow Alert when in public spaces. By that, I mean a calm but vigilant observation of what's happening around you." Situational awareness can not be achieved in the short term – it takes a long period preparation to develop. Considering the ever-changing world around us there is no better time to begin preparing than now.

- Mike Langley, KD4MTT

### October 2017 BARC VE Session Results

On the October 17, 2017 BARC VE session, one candidate upgraded to General and another passed the Technician Amateur Radio exam.

BARC member, **Michael Monteith**, **KM4OLT**, upgraded to General Class license. **James Lowe**, **KN4GWZ**, Grimesland, NC, passed the Technician exam. James was assigned his new call sign by the FCC on 10/24/17. Congratulations to both.

The VE's that attended were VE Liaison Gary Coriell, **KK4GC**, Morris Lewis, **AK4MU**, Dan Wallace, **K4HMW**, Byron Highland, **K4BMH**, Al Mullis, **K4GOE**, Richard Cox, **K4CRD**, and Dave Langley, **W4YDY**.

The next regular BARC VE session is scheduled for **December 19, 2017**. - W4YDY

The next  
BARC VE  
session is  
scheduled for  
Dec 19, 2017



# Ham Ads

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**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  
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## Join Us For Skywarn Recognition Day 2017

Hal Austin, NC4HA, here. For those who don't know me, I'm the Skywarn/amateur radio focal point here at the National Weather Service Forecast Office in Newport. I would like to extend an official invitation to you and your club to come to our office and participate in Skywarn Recognition Day 2017. This annual event is being held from 7pm Friday December 1, until 7pm Saturday December 2.

The official website for SRD 2017 is:  
<http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/mtr/hamradio/>

We will operate only for the hours of 7am through 7pm on Saturday. This is the best way to concentrate our human resources.

In addition, we will hold a Basic Spotter Class at 10am in our conference room.

All bands and modes of operation are allowed. Our office ham shack, WX4MHX, has three radios, an Icom IC-V8000 on a directional beam pointed at the Columbia NC repeater, a Kenwood TM-733 2m/440 MHz on a vertical, and an Icom IC-706MK II HF rig. You're also welcome to operate in any other way you like. Our conference room has two "portholes" in the wall, so if you'd like to bring your own equipment you can easily run cables outside to a portable antenna. This has been popular and worked well in past events. If your club would like to do this, you're welcome to come the day before to set up and test your equipment if you'd like. It will be completely safe to leave it here, since we're staffed 24/7. You can operate from our parking lot, or if you have a mobile command trailer, you can set up next to the building and run your power cords through the

portholes to electric outlets inside. The sky's the limit!

If you would, please drop me a line and let me know whether or not you'll attend. This will help me estimate how many to expect. Hal, NC4HA, [hsa63@yahoo.com](mailto:hsa63@yahoo.com)



**“Force of 50” Volunteers’ Puerto Rico Hurricane Recovery Mission Ends**

The 22 “Force of 50” radio amateurs who deployed to Puerto Rico earlier this month as American Red Cross volunteers have ended their mission and will be back on the US mainland by week’s end. They had been in Puerto Rico for about 3 weeks.

“The Force of 50 volunteers demonstrated an extraordinary range of skills possessed by this accomplished team,” said ARRL CEO Tom Gallagher, NY2RF. “There was no task that they wouldn’t tackle. It also demonstrated the generosity of these volunteers, who not only performed their roles as communicators, but also engaged the population with their many acts of personal kindness.”

Val Hotzfeld, NV9L, who filed situation reports documenting the team’s activities, said the volunteers accomplished everything they went to Puerto Rico to do, “and then some.” She said that the Red Cross felt they had exceeded all expectations.

“We opened a lot of peoples’ eyes when we started going to the ESF-2 communications task force meetings. They had no idea of our capabilities,” Hotzfeld told ARRL. “When they heard what we’d accomplished, we were swarmed; everybody was wanting us.”

Hotzfeld said the volunteers’ initial mission was to provide a way to gather outbound health and welfare messages and put them into the Red Cross’s Safe and Well System using Winlink.

However, the mission changed once they were on the ground when they discovered the needs were much greater.

“No one had any communications, so the mission morphed to communications,” she said. “But, we did both.” She said the Red Cross recognized the value of ensuring communication for hospitals, and other volunteers handled Safe and Well messages.

She said the volunteers possessed a wide range of talents, from medical to mechanical, not just communications. For example, Andy Anderson, KE0AYJ, set up the helicopter landing pad at Guajataca Dam, Hotzfeld said, and provided communications where there was none.

Ten SHARES (Shared Resources) HF Radio Program operators will replace the Amateur Radio volunteers who had worked on behalf of the Red Cross. These SHARES operators are federal employees who happen to be radio amateurs and volunteered for the duty in Puerto Rico. Hotzfeld said they will be stationed in four different zones, with two operators at headquarters in the San Juan Convention Center. “The hospitals did not want us to leave,” Hotzfeld said. “They were begging us to stay.” She noted, though, that the hospitals also have access to satellite telephones. “I was so proud of our guys,” Hotzfeld said in summary. “They were rock stars.”

-via ARRL @ <http://bit.ly/2ABqAX9>

**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 (20wpm)
- ◆ 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**

Nov 14 ..... Regular Meeting  
 Nov 18/19 ..... ARRL SSB Sweepstakes  
 Nov 19 ?..... Benson Hamfest

Nov 25/26 .....CQ WW CW DX Contest  
 Nov 28..... Board Meeting

**December**

Dec 2/3 ..... ARRL 160 Meter Contest  
 Dec 9/10 ..... ARRL 10 Meter Contest  
 Dec 12 ..... BARC Christmas Party  
 Dec 19 .....BARC VE Session  
 Dec 26 ..... Board Meeting  
 Jan 1 ..... BARC Dues DUE

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

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**

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**November 2017  
 Next Meeting  
 Nov 14, 2017**

**To:**



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