HAM CHATTER







Volume 52 Issue 01

Editor, Joe Jeansonne, WB4JOE

An Official BARC, W4AMC, Publication

January 2018

Email: hamchatter @ w4amc.com

Bernie Nobles, WA4MOK, BARC Ham of the Year Christmas Party and BARC 2017 Awards

A great time was had by all at the December BARC Christmas party whit the families participating. As usual, there was very good food and many deserts.

Awards were presented to BARC members at the December 12 Christmas Party. The Ham of the Year plaque was earned by Bernie Nobles, **WA4MOK**.

Peer award certificates were awarded to OM of the Year (tie) John McCoy, **K4KBB**, and Dave Langley, **W4YDY**. Linda Nobles received the YL of the Year and Elmer of the Year went to Dave Wood, **W4EJ**. Mike Monteith, **KM4OLT** was selected New Ham of the Year.

Volunteer certificates were awarded to Tom Parsons, **W4TEP**, Club Station Trustee; Pat Williams, **KG4NSC**, Public Relations/Publicity; Joe Jeansonne, **WB4JOE**, Ham Chatter Editor, Michael Monteith, **KM4OLT**, Web Site Editor and Dave Langley, **W4YDY**, Ham Chatter & Web Site Contributing Editor.

Gary Coriell, **KK4GC**, received a certificate for Volunteer Examiner:(VE) Liaison. Gary then presented certificates to VE Dave Langley, **W4YDY**. The following VEs were not present, Morris Lewis, **AK4MU**, Dan Wallace, **K4HMW**, Byron Highland, K4BMH, Al Mullis, **K4GOE**, Gary Faust, **N4PIR**, and Richard Cox, **K4CRD**.

The following 2017 Officers were presented certificates. President - Jeff Meyer, **K4DKW**, First Vice President; Dave Wood, **W4EJ**, Second Vice President; Dave Langley, **W4YDY**, Secretary; Albert Sanchez, **WA7FXB**, Treasurer; Terry Monday, **K4ZYD**, Trustee; Pat Williams, **KG4NSC**, and Trustee, Byron Highland, **K4BMH**

Dave, W4YDY.



Next Meeting January 9, 2018

The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club will have its regular meeting at 7:30 PM Tuesday, January 9, at VFW Post 7032 on 1108 Mumford Road in Greenville. Peter Van Houten, KG4WEZ, will have the latest on Elecraft radios.

All members. families and guests are invited to attend.

BARC Board Meeting

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





Brightleaf 2018 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



Happy Birthday

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

02 KN4AAG Kevin Estep 16 K4VBS Ranny Chitwood 17 KM4OK David Mull 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 jeffreymeyer55 @ gmail.com (remove spaces in email address).

Thank you for your support and participation in BARC.

Well Wishes

Thoughts and Prayers go out to the following:

Additions or corrections to KB4JOE

Please inform Joe Jeansonne, KB4JOE, of any changes.

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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. (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. *

NC ARES Internet

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

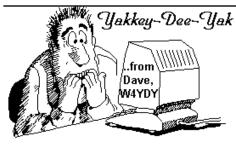
Pitt County ARES EC needed!



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^{*} More info at http://bit.ly/1FOhE1S>.



Dues

It's that time of the year again. The information about when, how and who to send dues to are in are an article in this Ham Chatter and also at W4AMC.COM. http://www.w4amc.com/barcnews.html#-Dues. Thanks for your participation and support of the club.

Holidays

Hope everyone got that new radio for Christmas. I think the only thing I got was 4 or 5 pounds! Probably there are a few others that did the same. The food was great.

FT8

As I mentioned last month, the new FT8 digital mode is very active. A new mode has never become so popular so fast that I know of. It just started about July, 2017. It took about 10 years for single sideband to become popular. The advantage of FT8 is the low level signal that can be detected. I have make contacts on FT8 when you can't even hear any signals on the other modes. Many run only 10 to 50 watts. The only problem that many see with FT8 is that it is a mode that only exchanges signal reports and nothing else. With SSB, CW, RTTY, PSK and many other digital modes, you can have a conversation. FT8 can be used for awards and getting those nice certificates to put on the

wall or file in notebooks when you give out of wall space. There are many certificates or stickers to add to ARRL certificates. Some are for different bands and modes. Check out VK2DX in Australia on QRZ or Facebook. He was very strong on 12 meters when he called me. He is using FT8 on 80 meters and is in the process of working 100 countries on 80. He has very interesting information about 80 meter FT8 on his web site http://dxing. today/. Since FT8 users have computers, most use LoTW. So far 2/3 of my FT8 contacts are confirmed. Most are confirmed within hours of the contact.

Logbook of The World (LoTW)

In late December, 6 meters was dead on phone and CW but I had contacts with Kansas and Oklahoma. When I uploaded the QSO's to LoTW about 3 hours later, they had already been uploaded by the other stations so they were confirmed. Sure beats snail mail and the costs. But not all stations are on LoTW. I just checked LoTW and had a confirmation from the Canary Islands for a contact made 18 years ago on January 2, 2000. Stations are joining LoTW all the time and just uploading all of their old logs.

Getting DX cards via snail mail can be quite expensive. Today it could cost hundreds of dollars to get cards if you had to send a card to each country although the QSL bureaus can bring down those cost quite a bit.

When I was chasing DX about 15 to 20 years ago, I could mail many cards to the ARRL and they

would forward them for a small fee. I sent 5x7 envelopes to the return bureaus and \$5 for return postage. When they got about 15 to 20 cards for me, they would send me back a 5x7 envelope for about a dollar or less in postage. It's much cheaper to use LoTW at a cost of 12 cents per confirmed Station if you don't want a paper card. I do have a collection of about 2000 DX cards and it's always interesting to look through the file boxes and see the different pictures, etc. It's also great for stamp collectors.

BARC Programs

If you have any subjects that you would like to see at the club meetings, contact Peter Van Houten, **KG4WEZ**. He would like your help. He will be doing the program in January about Elecraft radios. The program in February by Matt McMahon will be about emergency response. It's also the annual birthday party for BARC. - **W4YDY**

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Radio Amateur Receives Patent for "Cloaking" Technology

Nathan "Chip" Cohen, **W1YW**, of Belmont, Massachusetts — the founder of Fractal Antenna Systems Inc and inventor of the fractal antenna — has been granted a patent for deflective electromagnetic shielding — essentially "cloaking" technology to defend against detection by radar and similar technologies.

"Ham radio experimentation can lead to some pretty cool innovations!" Cohen said in response to a recent QRZ forum post about the patent. "Let's keep that spirit alive in 2018."

The patent covers electromagnetic cloaking/deflection of, among other things, satellites, rockets, towers, antennas, vehicles, body coverings, ships, spacecraft, and even people.

"Much time and effort has been devoted to the quest for so-called invisibility machines," the patent's background information states. "Beyond science fiction, however, there has been little, if any, real progress toward this goal."

According to the detailed description, the technology "provides one or more surfaces that act or function as shielding and/ or cloaking surfaces for which at least a portion of the surface includes or is composed of 'fractal cells' (small fractal shapes, functioning as antennas or resonators) placed sufficiently close to one another, so that current present in one fractal cell is replicated or reproduced to an extent in an adjacent fractal cell. Without being limited by any theoretical explanation, surface plasmonic waves are believed to cause such replication in conjunction with evanescent waves." The resulting surface would deflect around an object.

In terms of backscatter, upon which radar systems depend, Cohen has explained it this way: "The incoming wave reflects off a boundary condition at the object. Its reflection is out of phase and phase-cancels with the incoming wave. Bye-bye, backscatter."

Fractal Antenna Systems first

publicly demonstrated "person invisibility" in 2012 for a Radio Club of America audience. He also has demonstrated invisibility cloaks at Hamvention® and at the ARRL New England Division Convention. According to the company's BusinessWire release, "Uses of the newly patented technology extend to commercial needs such as towers, antennas, people, and shielding, but it may also be used in defense and intelligence arenas."

According to the BusinessWire release, the technology "produces the desired effects without any requirements on special orientation, composition, or shape of the object. The cloak/deflector can be very thin, and the effect can happen over a wide bandwidth."

- Read more @ http://bit.ly/2EQN-BYM

December 2017 BARC VE Session Results

On the December 19, 2017 BARC VE session, two candidates upgraded and three passed the Technician Amateur Radio exam.

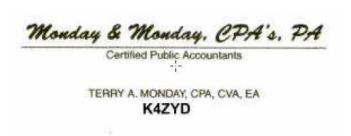
Byron Johnson, **KE4DDE**, Ayden, NC, upgraded to Amateur Extra Class license and James Lowe, **KN4GWZ**, Grimesland, NC, upgraded to General. Samuel Antolick, age 12, **KN4IRI**, Robert Antolick, **KN4IRJ**, Wilson, and Hgriberto BeceraBravo, **KN4IRK**, Jacksonville, NC, all passed the Technician exams. Samuel got the best results missing only one question! The FCC upgraded **KE4DDE** and **KN4GWZ** and new call signs were assigned on December 28, 2017. Congratulations to all.

The VE's that attended were VE Liaison Gary Coriell, KK4GC, Morris Lewis, AK4MU, Al Mullis, K4GOE, and Dave Langley, W4YDY.

The next
BARC VE
session is
scheduled for
Feb 20, 2018

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Ham Ads



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



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: hamchatter @ w4amc.com(no spaces)





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

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



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Vietnam Vet, Radio Amateur Granted Dying Wish to Get on the Air One More Time

Vietnam War veteran John Nugent, WA2EQJ, got on the air for what likely will be his final time earlier this month, thanks to help from the Amateur Radio community. The 75-year old US Army Signal Corps veteran, who has cancer, lives at the James A Lovell Federal Health Care Center in North Chicago, Illinois. Licensed since he was 16, he told a social worker at the facility that one item on his "bucket list" was to operate on ham radio one last time. Staffers at the facility got in touch with the Lake County Veterans Assistance Commission, and replies came from the American Legion Amateur Radio Club, the North Shore Amateur Radio Club, and Lake County Radio Amateur Emergency Service Civil (RACES), among others.

"He was just over the moon," social worker Alesia Behnke told the Chicago Tribune. "We had no idea we were going to pull it off."

The various Amateur Radio volunteers did, however, setting up an antenna outside the facility and a simple HF station inside. David Hartnett, **K9DRH**, and crew

Don Whitney, **K9DRW**; James Nelson, **K9QF**; Harry Hahn, **WB9R**, and Scott Campbell, **KC9SJP**, were among those who made it happen. ARRL Illinois Section Manager Ron Morgan, AD9I, spread the word that WA2EQJ would be on the air.

"John is terminally ill and wanted to make some 20-meter radio contacts one last time," a post on the Lake County RACES page recounted. "He has been in the [Lovell Center] for more than 3 years." Nugent volunteered to serve in the Army and was wounded during his Vietnam service.

On December 5, Nugent — with help from his family members and Lovell Center staff — turned on his radio and worked stations in California, Illinois, and Texas. After the contacts were in the log, Nugent's son Chris thanked the Lake County RACES and oth-



er volunteers who facilitated his dad's last wish.

Among the stations Nugent worked was special event **W9F**, operated by members of the Fermilab Amateur Radio Club (**WB9IKJ**) to mark the 50th anniversary of the National Accelerator Laboratory (Fermilab).

"We were able to add dying Army vet John Nugent, WA2EQJ, to the W9F special event log because of the rapid e-mail alert from the ARRL Illinois Section Manager, notifying ARRL members that it was Mr. Nugent's dying wish to make a final radio contact," Michaline Przekop, KC9ARP, told ARRL. "It was truly touching and unforgettable experience."

Video of the event is available.

- via ARRL (http://bit. ly/2Akcysl)

John Nugent, WA2EQJ (center), with his son, Chris (right), and daughter-inlaw Nina. [Don Whitney, K9DRW, photo]

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FCC Penalizes Marketer of Ham-Band Drone Audio-Visual Transmitters

The FCC has imposed a \$180,000 civil penalty on a Sarasota, Florida, company that had been marketing noncompliant audio-visual transmitters intended for use on drones in violation of the Commission's Amateur Service and marketing rules. In an Order released on December 19, the FCC explained that Lumenier Holdco LLC (formerly known as FPV Manuals LLC) was advertising and marketing uncertified AV transmitters capable of operating on both amateur and non-amateur frequencies, including bands reserved for federal government use. Some of the transmitters also exceeded the 1-W power limit for Amateur Radio transmitters used on model craft, the FCC said.

"Moreover, entities that rely on amateur frequencies in operating compliant AV transmitters must have an amateur license and otherwise comply with all applicable laws for such operation," the FCC said in the Order. The FCC said that while it generally has not required amateur equipment to be certified if it operates solely on Amateur Radio frequencies, certification is required if a device can operate outside of the ham bands.

Last January, in what it called an "extremely urgent complaint" to the FCC, ARRL targeted the interference potential of a series of audio/video transmitters used on unmanned aircraft and marketed as Amateur Radio equipment. ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, **W3KD**, said those transmitters used frequencies intended for navigational aids,

air traffic control radar, air route surveillance radars, and global positioning systems.

In addition to paying a civil penalty, Lumenier, which has admitted to marketing the non-compliant AV transmitters, will enter into a Consent Decree with the FCC to settle the enforcement proceeding and terminate the investigation.

The case stemmed from complaints received by the Enforcement Bureau's Spectrum Enforcement Division. "The investigation revealed that some of the AV transmitters marketed by Lumenier were capable of being operated outside of the authorized Amateur Radio Service bands, including on frequencies reserved in whole or in part for federal agencies, but were not certified or otherwise compliant with the rules," the FCC said in its Order. "These AV transmitters are considered intentional radiators and must comply with the Commission's Equipment Authorization and Marketing rules.

The FCC said that Lumenier ceased marketing the noncompliant transmitters after receiving a Letter of Inquiry from the FCC last April. The Consent Decree accompanying the FCC Order requires Lumenier to admit that it violated equipment authorization and marketing rules and establish a compliance plan to ensure that the company complies with FCC rules in the future.

-via ARRL (http://bit.ly/2zoqdUt)

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

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BARC - 2018 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

UKEICC 80M	Jan 03
WW PMC	Jan 06
EUCW 160M	Jan 06
Club Meeting	Jan 09
YB DX	Jan 13
Oakwood Topics	Jan 13
NA QSOP SSB	
CQ 160M CW	Jan 26
REF CW	Jan 27
UBA DX SSB	Jan 27
Board Meeting	Jan 23
UKEICC 80M	Jan 31
UKEICC 80M	Feb 07
Asia Pacific Sprint CW	Feb 10
Balkan HF	Feb 11
Club Meeting	Feb 13
Oakwood Topics	Feb 17
ARRL Int DX CW	Feb 17
VE	Feb 20
CQ 160M SSB	Feb 23
REF SSB	Feb 24
UBA DX CW	Feb 24
Board Meeting	Feb 27
UKEICC 80M	Feb 28
ARRL Int DX SSB	Mar 03

BARC - 2018 CALE	NDAR OF EVENTS
Club Meeting Mar 13	Club MeetingJun 12
Russian DX Mar 17	Oakwood TopicsJun 16
Oakwood Topics Mar 17	All Asian DX CWJun 16
CQ WW WPX SSB Mar 24	VEJun 19
Board Meeting Mar 27	ARRL Field DayJun 23
UK/EI DX CW Mar 31	Board MeetingJun 26
SARL 80M QSOPApr 05	RAC CanadaJul 01
SP DXApr 07	Marconi HFJul 07
Club Meeting Apr 10	Club MeetingJul 10
JIDX CWApr 14	Oakwood TopicsJul 14
Oakwood Topics Apr 14	IARU HFJul 14
VEApr 17	Jakarta DX 40MJul 21
Holyland DXApr 20	Board MeetingJul 24
ES OPEN HFApr 21	RSGB IOTAJul 28
CQMM DX Apr 21	European HFAug 04
YU DX Apr 21	Southern Africa HF SSBAug 05
Board MeetingApr 24	WAE DX CWAug 11
ARI Intl DX May 05	Club MeetingAug 14
CQ-M Intl DX May 12	Oakwood TopicsAug 16
Club Meeting May 08	NA QSOP SSBAug 18
Oakwood Topics May 12	VEAug 21
Board Meeting May 22	YO DX HFAug 25
CQ WW WPX CW May 26	SARL HF CWAug 26
Asia Pacific Sprint SSBJun 09	Board MeetingAug 28

WAE DX SSB Sept 08	
Club MeetingSept 11	
Oakwood TopicsSept 15	
Scandinavian CWSept 15	
UK/EI SSBSept 22	
Board MeetingSept 25	
SARL 80M Oct 04	
Oceania SX SSB Oct 06	
Club Meeting Oct 09	
Oakwood Topics Oct 13	
Oceania DX CW Oct 13	
VE Oct 16	
Asia Pacific CW Oct 21	
CQWW SSB Oct 27	
Board Meeting Oct 23	
Club Meeting Nov 13	
Oakwood Topics Nov 17	
Board Meeting Nov 27	
Club MeetingDec 11	
Oakwood TopicsDec 15	
VEDec 18	
Board MeetingDec 25	



All Asian DX SSB Sept 01

January 2018 Next Meeting 1an 9, 2018

:oT

GACW WWSA DX CW ...Jun 09



Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club PO Box 8387 Greenville, NC 27835

Ham Chatter