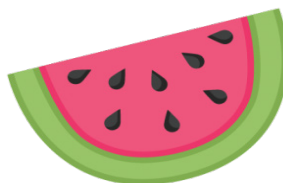


HAM CHATTER



Volume 52 Issue 08

An Official BARC, W4AMC, Publication

August 2018

Editor, Joe Jeansonne, WB4JOE

Email: hamchatter @ w4amc.com

Radio Amateur to Pay \$7,000, Face Restricted Privileges to Settle FCC Interference Case

The US Department of Justice and the FCC have reached a settlement with Brian Crow, K3VR, of North Huntingdon, Pennsylvania, to resolve allegations that Crow intentionally interfered with the communications of other Amateur Radio operators and failed to properly identify. The core component of the settlement calls on Crow to pay \$7,000 to the US Treasury, the FCC and US Attorney for the Western District of Pennsylvania Scott W. Brady announced in separate July 3 news releases. In addition, Crow's Amateur Extra class license will be restricted to Technician class privileges for 6 months, and he has agreed to discontinue contact with the individuals involved in this case. Crow's Amateur Extra privileges will be restored after 6 months, "if no new violations have been found," the FCC said.

"Amateur Radio licensees know that the rules require them to share the airwaves, which means that bad actors cannot plead ignorance," FCC Enforcement Bureau Chief Rosemary Harold said in the FCC release. "This

settlement is a significant payment for an individual operator, and it sends a serious message: Play by the rules in the Amateur Radio band[s] or face real consequences. We thank the US Attorney's Office for understanding the importance of this type of case and pushing it forward to ensure a resolution that included strong penalties for substantial violations of the law."

The settlement resolves a civil complaint (USA v. Brian Crow [No. 17-595]) in Federal District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania to recover an unpaid \$11,500 fine that the FCC imposed on Crow in a 2015 Forfeiture Order.

"Allowing licensed Amateur Radio operators the freedom to converse with others in an orderly fashion and without unwanted disruption is one of the missions of the FCC," Brady said. "This complaint identifies one such individual who intentionally interfered with other law-abiding Amateur Radio operators."

Read more @ <https://bit.ly/2ugtoJ5>

Next Meeting August 14, 2018

The Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club will have its regular meeting at 7:30 PM Tuesday, August 14, at VFW Post 7032 on 1108 Mumford Road in Greenville. The BARC Constitution will be discussed for possible changes to clear up some of the wording. Gary Faust, N4PIR, will make the presentation about CW and the CW Ops Academy. For those that are interested in learning or improving their CW, this is the way to go. They "are teaching many newcomers and veteran hams the art of CW using a novel training environment that allows an instructor to work with hams located thousands of miles apart. ..There is no cost or obligation to participate in CWops CW Academy Classes and membership is not required. Enrollment is open to anyone with the desire to learn or improve their proficiency in Morse Code." For more information, go to <https://cwops.org/>.

All members, families and guests are invited to attend.

BARC Board Meeting

The next board meeting will be Tuesday, August 28, 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

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](mailto:jeffreymeyer55@gmail.com) (remove spaces in email address).

Thank you for your support and participation in BARC.

Next VE Session

Exams will be held on Tuesday, August 21, 2018 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. *

* More info at <http://bit.ly/1FOhE1S>.

NC ARES Internet

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

**Pitt County ARES
EC needed!**



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*Happy
Birthday*

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

05 KM4JEG Robert Jreuler
 15 KB4JOE Joe Jeansonne
 19 KS4YF Paul Fletcher
 20 KV4CN Dave LeMoine
 25 K4GOE Al Mullis
 26 N2BVN Elizabeth Schultz

Additions or corrections to KB4JOE

Well Wishes

Thoughts and Prayers go out to the following:

Please inform Joe Jeansonne, KB4JOE, of any changes.

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BARC Field Day

The BARC Field Day operation at The Oakwood School was enjoyed by all who attended. The operators made 1,022 contacts. By the way, **W1AW** made 791 contacts. Elsewhere in this issue of Ham Chatter, Peter Van Houten, **N4PVH**, has an article with details of the Field Day operation.

All really enjoyed the meal catered by Linda Nobles. I gave her 5 stars except for the apple crisp. **That was 6 stars!** Everything was very good.

New Ham Licensees

The Juue issue of QST has an article about the new ham licensees in 2017. There were more than 7000 exam sessions held and more the 30,000 new hams. For some reason, I hear from those that are not into Amateur Radio, think it is dying out. When I got my license in 1952, the USA population was about 162 million and there wer about 100 thousand hams.

Now there are 748,136 hams at the end of 2017 with a USA population of 324 million. Thar works out ot about 0.6 hams per 1000 in 1952 and 2.3 hams per 1000 in 2017. That's an increase of 260% more hams reference the population. Who says Amateur Radio is dying? Smart phones sure hasn't hurt Amateur Radio overall. Just need more younger folks.

The Amateur Radio population is getting older. Back way before computers and smart phones, there were many young folks using Amateur Radio. I was a teenager when I got my license and there were many other teenagers on the air. There were also teen nets but anyone was welcome.

I still see friends that we first met over 60 years ago. There are still a few around that are not SK. It's hard to get that smart phone detached from the hands for todays teenager.

Ham Radio Magazines

Those that have been recently licensed, should join the ARRL to receive QST. Another good magazine is CQ Magazine. Both have many technical and operational articles about operating, DX, awards, public service, contests and many other columns.

The July QST has an article titled "Troubleshooting 101: A Digital Dilemma". The author, **WB8IMY**, explains how to troubleshoot and fix RF interference from his radio that causes interference to his DSL connection. It caused interference to his TV sets. There is an article on how hams solved a problem with the backup power to the Amateur Radio equipment on the ISS.

Also there are some product reviews and some contest results. Thee is a lot of information in the 144 pages.

The June, 2018 issue of CQ Magazine has a lot of good technical and operational articles. In the Emergency Communication column on page 71 is an article defining Software Defined Radios (SDR). The DX column talks about the FT8 invasion.

The Awards column list more new awards and also some results. You can get a Mediterranean award if you have QSL cards from at least 24 of the 32 countries. Checked my log and I have 24! Might have to send via email the data to the awards manager in Italy. If it checks out, he will issue a PDF certificate via email.

There will be a charge if you want a paper certificate. There are many more articles in the 112 page issue. - **W4YDY**

June 2018 BARC VE Session Results

On the June 19, 2018 BARC VE session, there were four successful candidates taking the FCC exams. James Brown, KF4JDH, Winterville, passed the General exam to upgrade to General Class. Amado Pilaphil, KN4NOF, Winterville, passed the Technician and General exams. Christopher Turnage, KN4NOE, Winterville, and Robert White, KN4NOD, Gaston, passed the Technician exams. The FCC issued new call signs and upgrades on June 27, 2018. Congratulations to all for their accomplishment.

Christopher Turnage joined the Brightleaf ARC. Welcome Christopher.

The VEs present were VE Liaison Gary Coriell, KK4GC, Al Mullis, K4GOE, Dan Wallace, K4HMW, and Dave Langley, W4YDY.

The next regular BARC VE session is scheduled for August 21, 2018. - W4YDY

FCC Administrative Law Judge Terminates Long-Standing**Amateur License Renewal Case**

In a July 9 Order, FCC Administrative Law Judge Richard L. Sippel has ended the decade-old license renewal proceeding involving William Crowell, W6W-BJ (ex-N6AYJ), of Diamond Springs, California, upon a motion by Enforcement Bureau Chief Rosemary C. Harold. Termination of the proceeding and the dismissal of Crowell's license renewal application followed his refusal to appear for a hearing in Washington, DC, to consider his license renewal and other issues in an enforcement proceeding that dates back 15 years or more.

"Crowell's decision not to appear at the hearing has the same practical effect as if he had initially failed, pursuant to Section 1.221(c) of the Rules, to file a written notice of appearance or otherwise signal his intent to participate in the hearing on his pending renewal application, i.e., he has waived his right to prosecute that application," Harold said in the Enforcement Bureau's June 12 motion to dismiss Crowell's license renewal application.

In his Order, Sippel said he agreed with Harold's determination. Crowell had asserted that the FCC was obliged to hold field hearings in the city nearest to a licensee's residence, but Sippel said that was incorrect. Crowell invoked financial hardship rules, but Sippel said those would not apply in an Amateur Radio case. Dismissal of the renewal application was "with prejudice," which means that Crowell cannot appeal the finding. It also puts

Crowell off the air. It has been 10 years since the FCC set Crowell's license renewal application for hearing, which was to center on whether he had violated FCC Part 97 rules in the early 2000s, in part by causing intentional interference, transmitting music, and "using indecent language," and whether he was qualified to have his renewal application granted.

Crowell raised the lengthy delay in his response to Harold's June 12 motion. "The more-than-10-year delay in holding a hearing herein (that's only since the Hearing Designation Order [was] issued; the pre-HDO part of the case goes back to 2000!) violates my administrative due process rights," claimed Crowell, who is an attorney. "A violation of administrative due process appears where, due to delay, a party's ability to obtain the truth has been seriously compromised."

Crowell claimed that most of the witnesses who might testify at a hearing are now deceased, and "the evidence is terribly stale." Crowell said the Enforcement Bureau "has no excuse for not having taken this case to a hearing at a much earlier date, and, at this point, my ability to elucidate the truth has been fatally compromised."

Subsequently, in an August 2016 Forfeiture Order (FO), the FCC imposed a \$25,000 fine on Crowell for intentionally interfering with the transmissions of other radio amateurs and trans-

mitting prohibited communications, including music. The FCC said Crowell did not deny making the transmissions but argued, in large part, that those transmissions were protected by the First Amendment of the Constitution.

"It is well-established that regulation of radio in general does not violate the First Amendment or [the Communications Act], and courts have made clear that this conclusion applies to the Amateur Service as well," the FCC responded.

Prompting the investigation that led the FCC to impose the substantial fine were complaints by members of the Western Amateur Radio Friendship Association (WARFA), which conducts nets three times a week on 75 meters. Crowell had argued that the WARFA Net monopolized the frequency and refused to let him check in. Sippel said he had stayed the renewal case on the basis of the pending Forfeiture Order proceeding, but said he was later informed that the US Department of Justice had decided not to prosecute the case. The FCC also denied Crowell's request to disqualify Sippel, after Crowell claimed that Sippel was biased.

Crowell's license expired in 2007, but he was allowed to continue to operate while his renewal application was pending. With his license renewal proceeding terminated, he may no longer operate legally.

- via ARRL <https://bit.ly/2KOZJt>

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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
or email to: hamchatter@w4amc.com(no spaces)**

A Yaesu 817nd, mars modded (came that way) with a voice compressor kit addon. I have the battery and AAA battery tray as well. Also an LG tuner for this one.

A Yaesu 857d, mars modded (came that way) with a 2.3 khz filter and mh 59 mic, as well as a external meter (plugs into 1/8" jack).

I'd like to get 900 for the whole bunch.

Jason, W4CKA, jason@jmel.us

Field Day Report

8:00 am Saturday morning came quickly, early and full of heat as the intrepid BARC set up crew, led by Bernie **WA4MOK**, met at Oakwood school. Eight different antennas were set up on the campus, some single frequency and some multi band, along with an SOL-12 receive antenna. One long wire on a 36' fiberglass pole with a 9:1 Unum was used as a multi band for the digital station. David **HK1A** brought a home brew 40 meter antenna with two 40' poles and a ground plane in the shape of a capital "H" for CW ops.

Richard **W4JNC** was "large and in charge" of the radio room set up where three stations took form. One digital station with a K2 connected to a NUE-PSK modem, one TS480 for phone and Icom 7300 for CW. One Icom 706 for 6 meter contacts using Bernie's 6m beam went live on Sunday. One Yamaha 2000 watt generator with line noise filter and power cords were pressed into service outside to provide the emergency power. Three laptops were networked by ethernet to provide logging functions. Grounding was connected to all stations and to a ground rod outside the radio room. The day was very hot and humid, with scattered thunderstorms and rain. We had fabulous turnout of club members in spite of the weather and were grateful for the shelter of the space donated for our use by The Oakwood School. By 2:00 pm the bands went "radioactive" and the signals started to pour in. 40 and 20 meter bands were good but the rest were mostly quiet until later in the evening when things changed and the weather calmed down a bit. Paul **K4YS** was pressed into running digital for a while. Jeff **K4DKW** and Gary **KK4GC**, with many others, ran the phone tirelessly. In the mean time Dave **HK1A** what doing an incredible CW ops job at the Icom 7300. We

had official visitors from ARRL, Karl Bowman and from the Daily reflector Molly Mathis.

An excellent "down home" dinner was served at 6:00 pm by Chef Linda and her able sidekick Bernie Nobles consisting of steak and gravy, green beans, mashed potatoes, marinated cucumbers, and other wonderful goodies. Peach cobbler, apple cobbler and banana pudding, plus tea and other treats rounded out the desserts. I think our record turnout might have something to do with the feast Linda always provides for us! We had to add extra tables and chairs to seat the whole crowd! It was hard to return to the radio stations after that as we all enjoyed a "food coma" (think Thanksgiving dinner) and good conversations between friends who shared a passion, which went on for a while. As the night wore on, the crew faded slowly into the wood work (or back home to bed), leaving three hardy souls to man the stations. Jeff **W4KDW**, Dave **HK1A** and Peter **N4PVH** manned the stations through the night and filled the generator to keep it going. By morning Eileen VH had brought breakfast rolls and other refreshments to keep the crew running. By 9 am, the crew who had gone home to rest came back to man the stations until 2pm and then to take the antennas and stations down. All was packed and put away by 3 pm. It was hot and clear with only an occasional shower. Rather great weather for



Jason W4CKA and Peter N4PVH work the digital station. Jeff K4DKW and Gary KK4GC works the phone.

such an event.

The results: 656 CW contacts, 301 phone contacts, and 65 digital contacts were made by a crew of almost 35 members present. The best showing we have had in years! Hooray to the whole team for all the effort as it made it fun for all. Call signs that were present from the sign in sheet: **KK4GC**, **KG4NSC**, **KS4YS**, **K4ROK**, **WA4MOK**, **K44DKW**, **W4JNC**, **WA4AKB**, **WB7STZ**, **KC4HHW**, **W4YDY**, **W4EJ**, **W3LPR**, **KI6ACY**, **KI6BPT**, **WA4SLC**, **HK1A**, **N4PVH**, **KV4CN**, **N4RXX**, **W4CKA** and many other as well. Sorry if I overlooked anyone. I really enjoy seeing what we can accomplish when everyone pitches in and we work together to keep ham radio alive in our community, while also remaining prepared to serve our community in an emergency. Check out the article on the front page of The Daily Reflector on Monday (<http://www.reflector.com/News?2018/06/25/Preparing-for-the-worst-by-competing-to-be-the-best.html>.)

By the way, with our organization was formed in 1967, we have been around now for 51 years!!!! Is that a reason for another party????? 73, Peter **N4PVH**.



The Antenna field got crowded with multiple antennas. ARES and BARC trailers in the foreground. Bernie's 6 meter beam in the foreground.

Preparing for the worst by competing to be the best

Ham radio enthusiasts spent this weekend honing their skills and battling thunderstorms to see how many other operators they could reach. Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club, call sign W4AMC, held a field day exercise this weekend at The Oakwood School.

Beginning at 2 p.m. Saturday through 2 p.m. Sunday, 11 club members spent 24 hours contacting ham radio operators across the United States, Canada and the world to see which club could gather the largest number of ham radio operator contacts.

“It’s basically an emergency preparedness exercise that they put in a contest,” said Jeff Meyer, who has operated ham radios for 41 years. He’s been a Brightleaf member for 10 years. “The goal is to get into as many places as you can.”

Participants exchange station class and location during the contest. The Brightleaf Club is 3ANC. By Sunday the club had made more than 600 Morse code contacts, 300 voice contacts and 65 digital contacts.

Ham radios operate using a variety of short-wave radio frequencies the Federal Communications Commission allocates for amateur radio use.

Short-wave radio frequencies are reflected off the ionosphere, a layer of the earth’s atmosphere, when broadcast from transmitter to receiver. Depending of weather conditions, the signal may be received by a neighbor down the road or can be received across the world. Saturday night the club made contact with an operator in the Ukraine.

“It’s the only fail-safe system of communication,” said Dave Langley, who has had a ham radio license since 1952. The Brightleaf Club organized in 1967. Its members have mobilized for every hurricane affecting eastern North Carolina with the exception of Hurricane Matthew. During the flooding that followed Hurricane Floyd in 1999, ham radio operators were the only line of contact between northern

Pitt County and emergency operations personnel working in Greenville, said Berard Nobles, field day committee chairman.

At one point, the ham radio operators were linking emergency medical personnel in northern Pitt County to the hospital so the delivery of medical supplies could be coordinated, Nobles said. Today, ham radio operators remain the only source of communication in some parts of Puerto Rico, club members said.

“At the end of the world, we’ll be ready,” said Peter Van Houten, a licensed operator since 2001.

Scattered thunderstorms that began Saturday afternoon affected the early hours of field day, said Gary Coriell, Brightleaf Club president, Weather can affect the ionosphere, especially lightning, which created a lot of extraneous noise as they scanned radio frequencies.

While most club members used radios, David Sourdis, a native of the South American nation of Colombia, operated a Morse code device. “David is a world-class code operator,” said Doug Ferris. “He’s been instrumental in building DX (long distance) stations across the world.”

Learning Morse code was once mandatory for ham radio operators, Ferris said. “Now that (operators) don’t have to learn it, it’s become more mystical,” he said, and people still learn it. Sourdis, who holds a master’s degree in electrical engineering, has designed and built short-wave antenna across the world.

Sourdis started playing with short-wave radios and antennas when he was nine years old.

“Contesting and antennas, they are my favor hobbies,” Sourdis said. “When everything fails, like cellular, radio, television, the internet, we can set up a station, an antenna and communicate anywhere in the world.”

-via <https://bit.ly/2MvyHKE>

**NETS
VHF/UHF**

- ◆ BARC Net, Mondays, 2000 on 147.09 MHz, W4GDF Repeater.
- ◆ Newport SkyWarn Tues. nights 2100E Griffon-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 - 2018 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SARL 80M QSOP Apr 05
 SP DX Apr 07
 Club Meeting Apr 10
 JIDX CW Apr 14
 Oakwood Topics Apr 14
 VE Apr 17
 Holyland DX Apr 20
 ES OPEN HF Apr 21
 CQMM DX Apr 21
 YU DX Apr 21
 Board Meeting Apr 24
 ARI Intl DX May 05
 CQ-M Intl DX May 12
 Club Meeting May 08
 Oakwood Topics May 12
 Board Meeting May 22
 CQ WW WPX CW May 26

Asia Pacific Sprint SSB Jun 09
 GACW WWSA DX CW ... Jun 09
 Club Meeting Jun 12
 Oakwood Topics Jun 16
 All Asian DX CW Jun 16
 VE Jun 19
 ARRL Field Day Jun 23
 Board Meeting Jun 26
 RAC Canada Jul 01
 Marconi HF Jul 07
 Club Meeting Jul 10
 Oakwood Topics Jul 14
 IARU HF Jul 14
 Jakarta DX 40M Jul 21
 Board Meeting Jul 24
 RSGB IOTA Jul 28
 European HF Aug 04

Southern Africa HF SSB .. Aug 05
 WAE DX CW Aug 11
 Club Meeting Aug 14
 Oakwood Topics Aug 16
 NA QSOP SSB Aug 18
 VE Aug 21
 YO DX HF Aug 25
 SARL HF CW Aug 26
 Board Meeting Aug 28
 All Asian DX SSB Sept 01
 WAE DX SSB Sept 08
 Club Meeting Sept 11
 Oakwood Topics Sept 15
 Scandinavian CW Sept 15
 UK/EI SSB Sept 22
 Board Meeting Sept 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 Meeting Dec 11
 Oakwood Topics Dec 15
 VE Dec 18
 Board Meeting Dec 25

To:



August 2018
Next Meeting
August 12, 2018



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