

Ham Chatter

The official publication of the Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club

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Greenville, North Carolina

Our 16th Year



"HAM WATCH" INAUGURATED AT LAST CLUB MEETING ... Area amateur operators at the last monthly meeting of BARC heard state officials describe the newly formed "Ham Watch" program originated by Greenville Ham Bob Sickles, W4RGF. The program will be presented across the state, starting with the Greenville Club. Present at the meeting were, left to right, Lt. C. E. Warren, Greenville Police Department; L. D. Hyde, director of the state division of crime prevention;

Bob Sickles, W4RGF; and Sgt. Floyd Owens, WB4TWF of Washington, the Highway Patrol North Carolina has about 9000 licensed operators that will be ask to report emergencies via amateur radio VHF and possibly UHF repeaters. Sickles said recently the program seems to be well received by state officials and other states have contacted north Carolina officials for details of the program. Each amateur club participating in the program will receive specific training.

4-Land QSO Party

By Bob Knapp, W4OMW

Activity this year in the 4-Land party wasn't any better than last year, but we did have participation from club members in comparison. KE4I, N4EMB and W9TS operated as a multi-op station using the club call of W4AMC with W4OMW

operating W4AMC/mobile on CW in 15 counties; two in Georgia, seven in South Carolina and six in North Carolina.

Comments from other participants were in favor of this club station type of operation and the extra points for working same.

Bob Patten, N4BP in Florida was high scorer with 10,455 points and 205 contacts in just four hours of operation. Bob has been tops in the

4-Land parties many times in the past. Bill Owen, W5WG from Louisiana was top man from stations out of the four land with a score of 7,791 and 60 contacts, seven of which were with W4AMC/M and two with W4AMC in Pitt County and on two bands giving Bill several extra points, to be exact 1,431.

Bob Knapp, W4OMW with XYL Mary, W4UTO, driving headed for Alabama, but due to lack of activity, especially

on 20 meters, the trip last as far as Thompson, Georgia.

Newsletter Now Bimonthly

The *Ham Chatter* with this issue will be a bimonthly publication. This will be a cost saving measure, and postcards will be mailed in place of the printed newsletter. Anyone wishing to contribute articles are welcome and encouraged.

EDITORIAL

As president of BARC for the past year, we haven't accomplished as much as I would have wanted to.

There are many things that could improve the club, and I hope with the new officers this can be done. BARC need to be active in many areas, such as providing a better club house for its members, more training for new members as well as the old-timers, emergency preparedness, and of course more good program meetings. I am very sorry that I have not done enough. I wish the new officers good luck and I'm sure the new blood will make a big difference.

I would like to thank the officers, and all members for their support over the past year.

Bernard Nobly



WORLD'S FAIR STATION ... Richard Kelly/N4BKX, sits at the controls of the World's Fair station in Knoxville, Tennessee. (Photo via N4BKX)

By Richard Kelly/N4BKX

While attending a seminar at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, it was a great time to attend the World's Fair.

On the list of priorities was a visit to the Expo Ham Station. After a somewhat lengthy search for the booth it was finally located in the medical exhibit building. It's still a puzzle as to the logic of the location, but there it was, located between the artificial kidney and the pacemaker demonstration.

The Tennessee Wireless Association was organized to exhibit amateur radio at the World's Fair. Manufacturers provided virtually all of the amateur gear. The station consists of Ten-Tec HF rigs, Omni C's, Hurcules Amplifiers, Robot SSTV and Hy-Gain Antennas.

Upon arriving at the booth a member of the association was operation SSTV. At the end of his QSO, several questions were ask regarding the operation and the replys were very curtious and knowledgeable answers. Permission was requested to operate the station and granted.

Operation instructions were given and the equipment tuned up. It was a first experience on Ten-Tec equipment. For those who have this gear, I'm sure will agree as to its ease of operation.

First effort to make a contact was on the novice band. After practicing CW for the call of WA4KFS, into a dummy load, the rig was switched into the antenna. A novice was soon located sending CQ and a reply was given, needless to say he was very pleased to work the World's Fair station. I soon discovered the proximity of the operating position to the visitors area prevented much concentration on CW. A microphone was located and tuning was done on 10 meters. After discovering the band was open, but not in great condition, CQ was sent. ASeveral calls were received from six land from hams interested in working the station, but not interested in a QSL card. QSB prompted a change to 15 meters and another CQ was sent, and also provided several responses. After a few minutes of operating, the position was reluctantly yielded to another visitor. The log was signed and that concluded the time on the station.

While on the campus and attending the Pittsburgh-New England exhibition game, at Neyland Stadium, it was noticed on one of the light towers, at least 200 feet in the air, a TH6DXX. The owner of the array was never learned, but the antenna site was sure impressive.

MEETING DATE

The Next meeting will be Tuesday October 12, 7:45 p.m. at the Planters National Bank Building at the corner of Third and Washington Streets, in Greenville. Elections will be held, so please try to be present. We'll look forward to seeing you, and bring a friend.

Club Repeater Now Tested

The W4AMC(club repeater) on 147.96/36 Mhz., has been on from Doug Ferris, K4ROK's house on low power and antenna up about 35 feet. We will have more information on the repeater situation at the next club meeting.

WANTED

•WANTED TOWER, would like to buy used 60 or 70 foot tower. Call Stan, 756-5405.

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By

Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club
P. O. Box 8387
Greenville, N. C. 27834

Editor

Tommy Forrest, N4GVK



IT'S A LONG WAY DOWN! ... It might make you a little dizzy to look at this photo, especially if heights aren't your "bag." The photo was made from the 1,845 foot level of the WNCT/WITN 2000 foot television tower at Grifton, looking straight down. The large transmission lines can be seen at the top of the photo. Of course the tower has an elevator which aids in the service of the numerous

commercial and amateur radio repeaters. Both stations have FM antennas on the tower also. On this particular day Murray Adams/WA4DAN and photographer Tommy Forrest/N4GVK, made a trip up and found the sights great. Texas Gulf was very clearly seen as well as the country around the area.

Repeater Group Raises Funds For Transmitter

The Pitt County Repeater Association which supports the 144.75/145.35 Mhz. repeater is trying to raise funds to purchase reducer cones for use of the 3/8 inch copper feedline existing in the tower.

Permission was granted for the use the line sometime ago, but the availability of the cones was not easy. The repeater has been on the air since May 25, 1982, with great results. Checkins have been from as far as the Wright Brothers Memorial at Kitty Hawk, on an HT (conditions were good that

morning) all the way to Raleigh. The use of the hardline would triple the power making the ERP about 100 watts.

Future plans for the repeater call for control and receiver devices. Recently added to the machine was a static arrestor and a new cabinet.

Anyone wishing to make a contribution of any amount, can send it to The Pitt County Repeater Association, P.O. Box 873, Greenville, N.C. 27834. All contributions will be greatly appreciated.

Mt. Mitchell Repeater Highest In Eastern United States

*By Ken Woodard, WA4BVW
Special To the Ham Chatter*

The Mt. Mitchell repeater is slated to be the highest repeater in the Eastern United States. The repeater is located at an elevation of 6,670 feet, ASL, 3,000 feet above average terrain. The repeater is 25 miles northeast of Ashville, North Carolina, 110 miles northwest of Charlotte. The height of Mt. Mitchell is 6684 feet, the highest point in the Eastern U.S., is the top of the 180 foot tower on Clingman's Dome, which is in Tennessee.

The two meter repeater is on the frequency of 145.190 Mhz. output, 144.590 Mhz. The ERP is presently 20 watts, to be upgraded to near 100 watts. The receiver is a SCR100 Spectrum with a Lunar PAG-144 GAS-FED preamp. The antenna

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will soon be a Phelps Dodge PD200 Station Master with a Phelps Dodge six cavity duplexer. The transmitter is a Spectrum SCT 110. Both transmitter and receiver are borrowed from the Haywood County 87/27 repeater group.

A 220 repeater is at the same location. It's frequency is 224.540 Mhz. output, 222.940 Mhz. input. It's ERP is 14 watts, to be upgraded as funds are available. A 450 repeater is also planned on 448.650 Mhz. input, output of 443.650 Mhz., as funds and equipment are available.

The Mt. Mitchell repeater is 600 foot higher than the Mt. Pisgah repeater, 146.16/76 Mhz. also well know on the East Coast.

The Mt. Mitchell repeater was placed into temporary operation on May 3, 1982, upgraded with a duplexer and preamp, on June 22, 1982. A net was held at midnight July 3, 1982, with 250 check-ins from seven states; Kentucky, Virginia, Tennessee, South Carolina, Georgia, North Carolina, and Ohio. West Virginia has since been heard.

The Mt. Mitchell two meter and 220, the Mt. Pisgah two meter repeaters are funded by private donations to the WA4BVW Repeater Fund, P.O. Box 126, Lake Junaluska, N. C., 28745.

FOR SALE

•ROTATOR AND CABLE for sale. Also telescopic mast with double stacked FM antenna and booster amplifier, also TV antenna, VHF/UHF, on eight foot mast. Call Stan, 756-5405

•MOSLEY TA-33 triband beam, very good condition. Antenna has worked 292 countries. \$100, call Murray Adams, WA4DAN

•TELEX CM-1320 headset with boom mic. "top of the line" and "the DXers choice". Mint condition, call Murray Adams, WA4DAN

•AMECO PT-2 preamp 160-6 meters. Mint condition. \$65, call Murray Adams, WA4DAN.

•COMPLETE HF STATION for sale, Drake TR4C five band transcvr. with power supply, Heath HM 102 SWR/Watt meter, Butternut HF-6V vertical antenna, Butternut RMK-11 Roof Mount (never completely assembled), turner 254 crystal microphone, cantenna dummy load, MofJ CWF-2 CW filter, archer 8 ohm mono headphones, muffin fan, channel master rotator, and control box, three wire conductor, 50 ft. RG8X coax (Berk-Tek), all associated coax connectors and cables, heath antenna switch HD-1234, call Lee Hemink, 756-6637, after 6 p.m.

•TOWER Rohn 25G-70 foot tower for sale, with guy wires, call Jim Aderholt, 756-4088, anytime, \$275.



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