

New Bern Amateur Radio Club



Volume 24, Issue 1

January, 2001



WD4JMS/R

146.610/ 146.010 PL 100 Hz.

444.900 / 449.900 PL 100 Hz.

Website: www2.cconnect.net/newbernarc

February Meeting -- Thursday, Feb. 1, 2001

Dues are Due - 3rd Notice

Although he says returns have been coming in, Charlie reminds us **again** that dues for the year 2001 may be paid at any time (the sooner the better). Dues remain at \$20/yr, checks may be mailed to the club at P.O. Box 12483, New Bern, 28560-2483, or to Charlie Gould, K4VC, at 103 Outrigger Rd., New Bern 28562, or will be cheerfully accepted at the meeting, February 1.

February Program

As part of a trial series of product review programs, Bob Chamberlain, W2HVX, will review the Yaesu FT-100 as an example of a new class of modern microprocessor controlled multi-band, multi-mode rigs. Compact and light weight, covering 160 meters through UHF, capable of digital modes with an external TNC and complete computer control, the FT-100 sports many advanced functions similar to larger, more expensive base stations. This and similar rigs, such as the ICOM-706 series, should be of interest to anyone looking to acquire a lot of function and flexibility at a modest price.

January Meeting Minutes

President, Mac, WA0ZGL, opened the meeting at 7:05 PM with 28 members, and 3 guests present. The minutes of the previous meeting appeared in the Dec. Newsletter. The usual self-introductions followed.

A review of the 2001 Officers was made and since they were the same as the previous year, a formal installation procedure was waived. A call for old business brought no response.

Under new business, attention was called to a Fairfield Harbor "boaters net", meeting on 7.224, Mondays and Fridays at 7:30 AM. Ed, W2UAS often heads the meeting.

Mac, WA0ZGL, spoke of the visibility and availability of the International Space Station. The NOAA website lists the frequencies and times when the station is visible in various cities. Since the solar cells were deployed on the last mission, visibility has substantially increased. A dual band HT and simple antenna are the only requirements for contacting the station.

There followed a discussion of the strides being made in the Newsletter and the requests of Ruth, KA8CDW, Dick, KB2HTI, Dave, K2CQV, and Dave, KB4EBT, to delete them from the mailing list and add them to the e-mail list. A substantial savings is effected in sending the Newsletter via e-mail. Further, first class postage has gone up by the time you read this.

A large portion of the meeting was consumed in a discussion of the club's financial situation. Charlie, K4VC, Treasurer, pointed out that a decrease in membership has served to decrease our income, yet our expenses have

remained constant, if not increasing. He estimated we currently have about 66 members.

The operation of the WD4JMS repeater in 2000, cost the club \$1291.94, in electricity, phone and insurance. That doesn't leave much room for other projects. An extended discussion of methods to increase income followed. Items discussed included, a dues increase, a 50/50 at each meeting, a \$1.00 donation at each meeting, a modification or elimination of the phone line, a table at the Down East Hamfest selling members donated items, a door prize at each meeting, and attempting to obtain grants. The most unique proposal came from Hal, W2RLG, who offered aerial trips in his plane at, with a suggested \$5.00 per 1,000 feet contribution to the club by the passenger. The members were asked to think further on the subject for future discussion and action.

Ben, N4NOA, indicated plans were being formulated for another Tech class to be held in Feb., at St. Andrews Church. This will be a "cram course", held on three consecutive Saturdays. Further details will be announced at the Feb. meeting.

Mac, WA0ZGL, handled the program chores and explored his "winter weather" ham activities. He has built several micro-sized projects, including the Tuna Tin transmitter. He is working on a 2 inch square receiver, and a surface mount transceiver. He referenced the sources for the kits, and the relatively easy methods of construction, even tho' you cannot sneeze when handling the components. He concluded the meeting by showing a video of surface mounting techniques.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM

Charlie, K4VC, Acting Secy.

HAL, W2RLG, FLIES HIGH FOR NBARC

by Bob, W2HVX

When Hal made his generous offer at our last meeting in support of the club treasury, I couldn't resist the temptation. A voluntary donation would get you a ride in

his neat aircraft. With over 25 years of piloting, there were no concerns on that score.

I indicated my interest via e-mail; he responded and chose an ideal day -- sunny, clear, and smoooooth! We met at

the general aviation section of the New Bern airport, arrival timing coordinated via our repeater.

For me, it was a fun photo mission. As many of you know, XYL Eve (our volunteer graphics department) enjoys creating computer-generated projects. We ended up with a treasure trove of new material, some of which I'll try to share with you in this newsletter.

It was a thoroughly enjoyable and productive experience. I encourage anyone who wants to have a great time and help the club treasury to take Hal up on his offer (good thru Feb.). It's a win-win deal!



Public Service Events To Be Expanded

Those of us who attended the January meeting are painfully aware of our need to increase club membership and revenues to meet expenses.

To this end, it was suggested that we increase the number of local and county public service events that we support to at least four per year. The more visibility we can gain, the more students we may get to attend license classes and then to join the club, whether licensed or not. In addition, the greater public visibility we achieve, the better will be any opportunities to solicit corporate grants or gain any type of county support.

Hand-in-hand with public demonstrations of our capabilities, suggestions were made to seek greater newspaper and TV coverage. Publicity is good. In the same vein, display items such as our logo, banners, signs, and distinctive clothing will go a long way toward

increasing recognition at a relatively minor cost.

So....we need to identify events, organizations, and contacts to approach. At this point, I would appreciate any and all suggestions to narrow the search. I'd like to drill as few dry holes as possible. Also, you could let me know of any events that you would love to get involved with.

We've struck out with the Mumfest so far, but we can keep trying. Neuse River Day seems to be a shoe-in again this year; they loved us. I think that the NC Symphony is out, so we need to come up with 3 new ones.

Pleeze...give me a call or an e-mail. I'll do the leg work.(Sigh!) I hate to beg, so I do it only on one knee.
Bob Chamberlain, W2HVX

VE News

The ARRL-VEC has announced that the 2001 exam fee will be \$10.00. This is a substantial increase from 2000's \$6.65. Under new arrangements with the FCC, the VEC enters the complete data used by the FCC from the paperwork. They then send only the data to FCC, who merely assigns the call letters. No paper travels back and forth; and ARRL is relieving them of data entry; but increasing their own expenses—thus the increase.

Secondly, there is a change in the code answer sheets. Up to this point the local VE teams could select the type of answer sheets. The New Bern team chose to use the multiple choice type. From now on, only fill in the blank answer sheets will be available.

So, to upgrade in 2001, you will need more money, and you had better copy all of the code !!

Charlie, K4VC

Recent News of Interest

The following was received on 12/30 & 31 from Rick & Tammy Jones, who sailed south in late Nov.

Hi this is Rick/wb6lnh and Tammy/kg4apr, all of our e-mail now comes via winlink and we can not handle the large e-mail of 13k via radio, just takes too long.... we are on our boat and are presently maritime mobile near ft pearce fl...can you abbreviate it a little, took 20 minutes to download via radio.

I would love to send a trip report of how warm it is and how we are both in shorts.... but just can not do it...last night it was 28 degrees here in Melbourne FL, and it is not warmer south of here. High in Miami was only 41 degrees. Fruit farmers are taking in the shorts, but the rest of the country not doing much better...

We went from Titusville to Melbourne in a cold cold rain.

as can be seen by the picture, but we will stay here until after the first and then go south to Miami.. One of the problems is that boats are stacked up all over waiting to cross to the islands and can not get a window..

Our equipment report is very positive. We had our South West wind power generator upgraded to a 400 watt unit and the results are VERY positive -- More output in lower winds, at 12 knots of wind we have 4 amps of charge available, that is pretty damned good.

73,

Rick and Tammy sv PELAGO

This Radio Email Message is provided courtesy of the WinLink 2000 Global Gateway. This is a slow radio link. Please be brief with your reply. For information, visit <http://winlink.org/>

A small picture was attached, showing one of them bundled up in foul weather gear - I couldn't tell which one of them it was ;-). Your editor wasn't thinking clearly enough to ask them for an update this week for this newsletter. I had looked at the WinLink site several weeks ago, and had found that it's possible for boaters to post their present position for all to see, but could not find that feature again.

NEWINGTON, CT, Jan 22, 2001 -- The ARRL Board of Directors voted to increase membership dues from \$34 to \$39 annually for full members younger than 65, and from \$28 to \$34 for full members 65 and older. The dues hike goes into effect July 1, 2001.

The Board also revised its position on whether Morse code proficiency should continue to be an international requirement to license operation below 30 MHz. While the Board acknowledged that Morse will disappear as an international requirement, it held the line on retaining a domestic Morse requirement.

Many countries, including the US, have lowered their Morse code requirements to embrace a single 5-WPM examination element.

taken from The ARRL website - for more info, see <http://www.remote.arrl.org/>

President's Corner

I had the privilege of participating in a VE test session this past Saturday and I was both pleased and excited to see both "new blood" come into our hobby and numerous upgrades. It would seem CW is still alive and kicking. Two Hams from New Bern earned additional privileges. Dennis MC Khee, KF4ZLG passed his code test and now has Technician with HF privileges. It wouldn't surprise me to see him come out next month for his General. Frank Grady, KG4GDY came in as a Novice and earned his Technician while retaining his Novice HF privileges. Gary Kology (new blood) passed his Technician exam. Gary came over from Oriental for the session. George Young, K4NFO who resides in Havelock, earned his Tech Plus last March and upgraded by passing his General test. A very nice couple drove down from Greenville to get their paperwork upgrade from Tech Plus to General. Last but not least, James Grimmett, KT4JO from Hubert went from Advances to Extra. Congratulations to all.

Notice I didn't list any failures. A great test session. As you can see, all it takes is a little studying and you too can upgrade. Crack those books and come on out to our next test session. The VE's will be very pleased to serve you.

Have fun. -wa0zgl

The Newsletter Team:

Al Parker, W8UT, Editor
Charlie Gould, K4VC, Data Base/Labels/Finance
Ray Hemphill, W7OPH, Duplication/Distribution

The NBARC Newsletter is the newsletter of the New Bern Amateur Radio Club, Inc., PO Box 12483 New Bern, NC 28561. NBARC is an affiliated club with the ARRL and ARES.

Any inquiries, comments, items for Swap Shop, suggestions, contributions, and letters for inclusion should be sent to the editor, W8UT, at e-mail: anchor@EC.RR.com

February Operating Events

Feb. 3-4 Ten-Ten Intl Net Phone QSO party
Feb. 3-5 YL-OM CW contest
Feb. 4-5 Spring Classic Radio Exchange
Feb. 12-13 Novice Roundup
Feb. 24-25 North Carolina QSO Party
See Feb. QST for details

Upcoming Hamfests

Feb. 3 North Charleston, SC
www.qsl.net/warun/index.html
Want to get warm for a weekend? Try Florida, I was in Orlando last week, 2 days at 80F
Feb. 3-4 Miami, Florida
Florida State Convention
www.hamboree.org
Feb. 9-11 Orlando, Florida
Northern FL Section Convention
www.oarc.org/hamcation/hamcat.html
Mar. 10-11 Charlotte, NC
Roanoke Division Convention
www.w4bfb.org
For full info on above items, see the Jan. or Feb. issue of QST magazine or web links

2001 NBARC Officers:

President: Mac Eutsler, WA0ZGL
Vice President: Pete Koonce, KA4SXX
Secretary: Ray Hemphill, W7OPH
Treasurer: Charlie Gould, K4VC
Communications: Ben Epting, N4NOA
Trustee: Tommie Phelps, WA4EME
Assistant Secretary: Doug Whitford, KF4YHG
Assistant Treasurer: Ralph Bitley, N3XID
Program Chairman: David Sousa, K2CQV
Public Service/Photog: Bob Chamberlain, W2HVX
Emergency Communications: Bruce Arnold, N8UTY
Assistant E. Comm.: Dave Warwick, KB4EBT

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Selected Local Nets

Club Net Manager: Billie Morton, KE4YMA

Craven County ARES: 146.61 MHz, 2000 before threatening wx; monitor during ARES activations

Waterway Radio Cruising Club: 7268 kHz, 0745 daily

Fairfield Harbor Cruising Net, 7224, 0730 M-F

NC Morning Net: 3927 kHz, 0745 daily

Carolina Slow Net (CW): 3715kHz, 1800 (5wpm) daily

Coastal Carolina Emergency Net: 3907 kHz, 1900 daily

Carolinas Net (CW): 3573 kHz, 1900 (25 WPM), 2200 (12-15) WPM) daily

Carteret County ARS/ARES: 145.45 mHz, 1930 Tues./ Emerg Traffic handling 1st Tues. after 4th Sat., monthly

NBARC Traffic: 146.61 mHz, 2000 Tuesdays

Skywarn: 145.21 mHz, 2100 Tuesdays

ENC Emergency: 146.685 mHz, 2100 Tuesdays

ENC Traffic: 146.685 mHz, 2030 daily

NBARC Ragchew: 146.61 mHz, daily, after ENC Traffic closes

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