

# New Bern Amateur Radio Club



**W4EWN/R**

146.610/ 146.010 PL 100 Hz.

444.900 / 449.900 PL 100 Hz.

**Volume 28, Issue 11 November, 2005**

**Website: <http://www.nbarc.org>**

## **Next Meeting -- Thursday, Nov. 3, 2005**

**6:30 PM at Famous Subs & Pizza, 2210 Neuse Blvd. (across from Roy's Family Restaurant.)**

**Program:** Dick Goodwin, **K4JJW**, will present his VERY Stealth antenna. Don't miss it.

### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Oct. 01, 2005 --- Oct. 31, 2005

#### **CHECKING**

Balance: Sept. 31, 2005	\$ 2,327.62
Expenses:	
10/10 Prog Nrg	21.51
10/19 Sprint	26.16
10/23 SERA	<u>20.00</u>
Total:	(\$ 67.67)
Subtotal	\$ 2,259.95

Deposits:

#### **SAVINGS**

Balance @ Sept. 30, 2005	\$ 2,361.62
10/07 Dr Prz	\$17.00
Balance @ Oct. 31, 2005	\$ 2,378.62

**GRAND TOTAL: \$ 4,638.57**

Charlie, **K4VC**, treas.

### **VE Testing 10-15-05**

An exemplary day ! Five applicants representing home addresses in Bristol, IL; Jamestown: Arapahoe: and finally New Bern. All applicants earned a license or upgrade. Other milestones:

- One went from no license to General (CW required. Tried for Extra, just a shot in the dark.
- One went from Tech to Gen.
- The remaining three all got Tech licenses.
- The five applicants passed nine elements!

The 'kicker' however was that of the total of 210 questions on all the tests only 11 questions were marked in error !!! These folks came to the session prepared.

Thanks to Tom, **KJ4IV**, and Bruce, **N8UTY**, for their adroit paper handling.

73, Charlie, **K4VC**

## MEETING MINUTES

October 6, 2005

The regular meeting of the New Bern Amateur Radio Club was held on the above date and the meeting was called to order by President Mac Eutsler, **WA0ZGL**, at approximately 6:45pm. Introductions were made from the floor with thirty-two present; roster is attached.

It was announced that 6 batteries rated at 6V, 200A are available for use by the club. If anyone has any suggestions for the use of these batteries, they would be appreciated.

Ken, **K4KDM**, said that Franklin Bowers, a troop 13 scout, has agreed to build the base for the tower that will be put in at the Lutheran church for his Eagle Scout project.

Bruce, **N8UTY**, thanked the operators that helped out during the recent Ophelia activation. Everything ran smoothly.

Sonny, **W3ADD**, told the club about his unfortunate experience while trying to volunteer for the **MS-150**. Sonny had difficulty finding his post location, then, when he found it, he learned that he wasn't needed until later that night and he was not available for an evening post. Sonny's experience points to an area for improvement in next year's **MS-150**.

Al, **W8UT**, took orders for the next order of kits for the battery pulsar. The cost for the kits will be around \$31.25.

In November operators will be needed to assist with communications at the **Veterans' Day Parade**. More details will be given at the November meeting.

Howard, **AA4HR**, won the door prize, another Ed Goldberg special, and the meeting was adjourned by Mac at 7:55pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robbie Rikard, **KG4MBQ**, Secretary

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### The ARES Angle

Well, it has been a wild hurricane season so far. One for the record books, in many ways. Wilma, for a day or so, was the strongest hurricane ever recorded. Thank goodness she tapered off some before slamming into inhabited territory. Also, the last time they used the "W" name for a hurricane was back in the 1933. We passed that record

this year, with 22 named storms, having had Tropical Storm Alpha for a brief time this week. This is the first time ever they have gone to the Greek letters, having run out of names. And now, as I write, Tropical Storm Beta is poised to thump into Nicaragua, bringing the current total to 23! And the season runs through the end of November. Given that the previous record lasted for 72 years, will any of us ever see another year like this? Well -- I hope not!

Here's a thought, and perhaps we could discuss it at our next meeting. While we focus in ARES on preparedness for communications emergencies, the sort of situation which would cause us to deploy always has other hazards as well. Perhaps, if we had enough interest, we could get the Red Cross to do a First Aid class for us. Barring that, a bunch of us could sign up for the same class and take it together. They are offered regularly. I'm sure Mac could provide more information on this. I know it's been a while since I re-took my basic CPR certification, and longer since I updated the First Aid. I gather they are including portable defibrillator training nowadays. Is this something we would like to do as a group?

And for now, that's the ARES Angle.

Bruce, **N8UTY**

Craven County EC

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The following article came to me through a "boatanchor" email reflector. It's definitely a feature in my memory, and you can read my thoughts at the end of the article.

### Preserving Chatham's ( MA) wireless past

By Matthew Belson/ [mbelson@cnc.com](mailto:mbelson@cnc.com)

Friday, October 21, 2005

Guglielmo Marconi may have beamed the first wireless radio signal from Wellfleet, but it was in North Chatham where he decided to build one of the country's first wireless radio transmitting stations in 1914.

Almost a century later it's hard to imagine that at one time the air around Chatham crackled with the dashes and dots of Morse Code beamed from the old Marconi Radio station to ships at sea.

"The key about Chatham was you had this large antennae array that could receive signals from around the world," said Frank Messina, of the Chatham Marconi Maritime Center. "We want to capture what occurred here in the '20s and '30s."

The radio tower is still standing along with 10 other original buildings on the 13-acre site, which is on the

National Register of Historic Places.

In today's world of wireless Internet connections, cellphones and satellite communications, it can be difficult to appreciate just how revolutionary and important wireless radio transmission was back then. For the first time ships in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean could communicate with each other and to shore.

At the Marconi station, operators lived on the grounds when not tapping out messages or maintaining the equipment. The Chatham-Marconi-Radio Corporation of America station became Chatham-Radio-WCC in 1921 and was the most active marine coastal radio station until its decommissioning in 1993 by its final operator, MCI.

The town of Chatham purchased the property in 1999. "The town has begun to understand that it has an important historical artifact in the station," said Roslyn Coleman, president of the Chatham Marconi Maritime Center.

Coleman said one of the goals of the organization is to restore the original operations building to serve not only as a museum about the Marconi station, but also as a center for science and maritime education.

"We would also like to see it working as an amateur radio station," she said.

Since the organization was formed more than three years ago, its 225 members have been busy.

"Our biggest goal is to raise money to be a viable candidate for the operations building," said Coleman.

Four of the buildings are currently used as affordable housing, and Coleman said the organization would need to raise about \$500,000 to renovate and bring up to code the operations building if it can be leased from the town.

"The community support we are receiving from the town is wonderful," said Coleman.

Yet, the organization is not waiting for a building to move into before offering educational programs.

The Chatham Marconi Maritime Center is sponsoring the BOSE Radio "Harmony in Education" project for local school students. Volunteers from the center are being trained as instructors for the month-long program in November, teaching elementary school and middle school students about sound and radio waves.

"I think we have a lot of exciting things going on," said Coleman.

For more information about the Chatham Marconi Maritime Center, go to [www.chathammarconi.org](http://www.chathammarconi.org)

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on Sun., Oct. 23, I sent the following to the email list:

Hi Jerry et al,  
Thanks for the "heads up."

I must admit I feel guilty in not pursuing what little I'd heard about this preservation/education effort in the last year or 3.

I grew up in the 50's, summers at least, in West Chatham, within sight of the WCC transmitting station 2 or 3 miles down the beach in So. Chatham. Many residents did not appreciate what was going on, the high powered CW transmissions in the 400-500kc marine frequencies came in S-9+ thru the 455kc IF's of most BC receivers within 10-15+- miles. In my limited way I uselessly tried to explain it to my grandfather. My novice test was administered by Bill Ryder at the transmitting station in 1956. I don't remember his call, but there's a William Ryder listed as "Emeritus" in the list of directors, it may be him. Unfortunately I never became acquainted with more than 1 or 2 hams in the area. I do remember a tour of the facility, but as a complete newcomer I didn't appreciate it as I could now. I do remember a bank of 5 or 6 of the smaller transmitters, 1kw I think, and I know there were other larger ones.

I've been back to the area almost every year since, having married a Cape girl, and since my parents retired there about 30 yrs ago now. I've boated a lot out of Ryder's Cove, in the shadow of the receiving towers, as well as in Nantucket Sound, in view of the transmitting towers. This Sept. I moved my mother, at 95, into an assisted living facility about 1/2 mi. from the receiving station in No. Chatham. I set foot in the main receiving building once, in about 1957, when hoping to find summer employment there. I was told that I'd need a commercial license and 25-30wpm CW capability. I was hoping, futilely, for at least ground-keeping chores. I vaguely remember long tables with, I think now, many RCA AR-88 receivers, an operator in front of each, and a traveling wire to move paper messages from one end to the other. Take a look at the WA1WCC QSL card or the pic on the "history" page at for an idea.

[www.chathammarconi.org](http://www.chathammarconi.org)

Thanks for the memories. I'm now living 900 miles away, enjoying boating yr 'round here, and messin' with boatanchors daily...

73,  
Al, W8UT

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### **Hamfests**

**Nov. 20, Sun., Benson, NC, JARSFEST**, Johnston Amateur Radio Society. **Talk-In:** 147.270 + 600 for info: <http://www.jars.net/> or Email: Bill Lambert, AK4H, [blambert1@mindspring.com](mailto:blambert1@mindspring.com)

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### **Cast of Characters:**

President: Mac Eutsler, WA0ZGL  
Vice President: Pete Koonce, KA4SXX  
Secretary: Robbie Rikard, KG4MBQ  
Treasurer: Charlie Gould, K4VC  
Communications: Bruce Arnold, N8UTY  
Trustee: Billy Morton, KE4YMA  
Assistant Treasurer: Ralph Bitely, N4RAB  
Public Service/Photog: Bob Chamberlain, W2HVX  
Emergency Communications: Bruce Arnold, N8UTY  
Assistant Em. Comm.: Dave Warwick, K4DJW  
Program Chairman: Ichabod Crane

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### **Selected Local Nets**

Times are local time, unless otherwise stated  
Club Net Manager: Vito Hughes, KB8VCZ  
Craven County ARES: 146.61 MHz, 2000 before threatening  
wx; monitor during ARES activations  
NC ARES Net, 3.923 MHz, 19:30 daily  
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  
Skywarn: 145.21 mHz, 2100 Tuesdays  
ENC Emergency: 146.685 mHz, 2100 Thursdays  
ENC Traffic: 146.685 mHz, 2030 daily  
NBARC Ragchew: 146.61 mHz, 2000 daily

### **New Bern Amateur Radio Club**

<http://www.nbarc.org>

P.O. Box 12483 New Bern, NC 28561-2483

### **The Newsletter Team:**

Al Parker, W8UT, Editor  
Charlie Gould, K4VC, Data Base/Labels/P.O.mail  
Bob Chamberlain, W2HVX, graphics & photography

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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.

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