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The MODULATOR

Newsletter of the Baltimore Amateur Radio Club



3-Element Quad for 2 Meters

Also: BARC teams up with the White House

The MODULATOR

published by *The Baltimore Amateur Radio Club*

P.O. Box 120

Reisterstown, MD 21136

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	Phil Hebert	N3CDY

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Items for *The Modulator* should be sent by the 5th of the previous month, to:

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Baltimore, MD 21236
or email to modulator@baltarc.com.

The club meets at 7:30 pm. the first and third Wednesday of every month in the club facility at 12360 Owings Mills Blvd., 3/10 mile south of Bond Ave. See ADC map page 16-D8. Complete directions web page <http://www.baltarc.com/directions.htm> or call the Club Facility at 410-526-4263.

VE Testing: First weekend of each month. Contact Rusty, N3WKE at arrl.net

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BARC Radio Room Gets Facelift

While the trio of **Ed - K3CAV**, **Mark - KB3NGI** and myself **N3WD** were operating in the November Sweepstakes the BARC radio room under went some needed fix up and re-arrangement. **Ed, K3CAV** spearheaded the project and went to town.

In brief after many hours of trial and error to make things work here is what was accomplished:

Station one was left alone. This is the station that consists of the Ten-Tec Omni VI, Ameritron AL-811 H amp, and MFJ Versa Tuner III.

Station two was completely re-done. It consists of the Ten-Tec Jupiter, LDG AT 200 Pro Autotuner, Icom IC-271 (2 Meter 100 W all mode) a new computer loaned by N3WD. We needed a computer with 2 serial ports. The computer was built and drivers found. The software for the Jupiter was loaded and the Jupiter is now connected to the computer for computer control. A rig blaster is now connected and the software loaded and is working. As of this writing, Bill N3WD is working on getting RTTY software up and running on this machine.

Station three has the Yaesu FT 847 with an LDG AT 11MP Autotuner and a Rig Blaster. The rig blaster is configured and working with the Yaesu. We are working on getting the Yaesu to be computer controlled but need a 2 serial port computer.

A lot of efforts went into getting everything working. Please enjoy the benefits but PLEASE do not disconnect or change anything. We still have to get the LAN back to the way it was before it was changed. Once we can get the radio room computers to see the lan again there is a logging section on the lan with the N3FJP log book loaded. This contains the clubs log. Unfortunately it can not be accessed at this time so paper log books are going to be provided until we can fix this issue.

Bill, N3WD

For Immediate Release
Contact: Sharon Dobson
Date: November 15, 2006

Baltimore Amateur Radio Club Joins With President Bush's Council on Service and Civic Participation to Deliver President's Volunteer Service Award

Prestigious Award Honors Outstanding Commitment to Volunteer Service

Reisterstown, MD BARC today announced it has teamed with the White House to become a Certifying Organization for the President's Volunteer Service Award, a national program recognizing Americans who have demonstrated a sustained commitment to volunteer service. Established in 2003, the Award was created by President George W. Bush to give Presidential recognition to individuals, families and groups who meet requirements for volunteer service, measured by the number of service hours performed over 12-months.


Baltimore Amateur Radio Club is one of thousands of organizations that have joined forces to deliver the President's Volunteer Service Award and honor the volunteers who strengthen our Nation. As a Certifying Organization for the Award, BARC is responsible for verifying service hours, nominating potential recipients and delivering the Award.

"We are extremely proud to recognize our most outstanding volunteers with the President's Volunteer Service Award," said **Joe, AJ3X** "BARC volunteers are role models in our community, donating their time, energy and talent to bring us closer together as neighbors and a Nation. The Award is our way of thanking these volunteers and inspiring everyone in our community to make volunteering a central part of their lives."

"Even if you've never volunteered before, the President's Volunteer Service Award is within your reach," **Sharon, K3DUH** said. "There are so many ways to contribute, and every volunteer hour makes a difference in improving the quality of life for others. We encourage everyone to get involved and to bring along your family, friends and neighbors. Together, we can strengthen America – one hour at a time."

The Award is issued by the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation, a group convened by President George W. Bush to help foster and encourage a culture of volunteer service and civic participation among Americans.

Chaired by two-time Super Bowl Champion Darrell Green, with former U.S. Senators Bob Dole and John Glenn as honorary co-chairs, the Council is composed of leaders in government, media, entertainment, business, education, nonprofit and volunteer service organizations and community volunteering.

For more information about volunteering with BARC, **Sharon, K3DUH, Particia, N3DUH** or **Travis, KB3MTZ**. For more information on the President's Volunteer Service Award and to find out how to identify additional volunteer opportunities in this area, visit www.presidentialserviceawards.gov or call **1-866-545-5307**. 

BARC Enters November Sweepstakes

Over the weekend of November 18 and 19, 2006 BARC participated in the ARRL November sweepstakes. The participants were: **Mark - KB3NGI, Ed - K3CAV** and myself **N3WD**. We knew we were not going to win in the multi category and decided early on we wanted to go for the sweep.

This is a contest within a contest. It is the usual "how many contacts can you make in a period of time" BUT it also has the contest of working all of the ARRL and RAC sections. There are 80 sections in all and some can be a real challenge to work. For some reason Quebec is real tough to find. Maybe it is because we do not have a French accent.

The contest runs from Saturday at 4 pm local time concludes Sunday evening at 10 pm local. You can only work 24 hours total out of that time period and every off time must be 30 minutes in length. Mark went to the facility on Friday to load the logging program on the computers only to find that someone had messed around with the lan (Local Area Network) and we could not get to any of the lan drives. Since only one transmitter is permitted it was decided that we would load the software on a computer locally and hope for the best.

We used the Ten-Tec Omni VI with the MFJ Versa Tuner III and the Ameritron AL-811H amplifier. We ran about 600 watts all weekend. The Ten-Tec has some great filtering in it and really worked well. We used the refurbished Cushcraft A4S beam and the Carolina Windom. Most of the contacts were on 20 meters early on and then we switched to 40 Meters and then 80 meters in the middle of the night.

I start off the contest on 20 meters and being the first to operate, I was able to knock out 40 some sections. Mark and Ed took over and worked 40 and

continued on page 13



Three Element Quad Antenna for 2 Meters

by Joe Tracey, KB3LNM

The quad antenna is easily constructed out of low cost materials using common hand tools. It offers good performance. It is about 59 ohm impedance so can be driven with 50 ohm coax and without the use of an antenna tuner. Gain and SWR plots from EZNEC are attached.

I experimented with different coax types. RG58 and RG58A/U give the best results with a SWR of 1.1 at 146.010 MHz. Use of RG 8 (9913F) at the same frequency has a SWR of 1.5.

This antenna was designed for indoor use. If you intend to use it in an outdoor environment the diamond shape is more desirable so that water and ice buildup is minimized. The antenna is very light and can be mounted on a TV antenna rotor. When mounting, place the SO239 on a vertical side to get vertical polarization.

Basic design information was obtained from the ARRL Antenna Handbook 2004 and was enhanced using the software program EZNEC supplied with the handbook.

Materials:

#6 gauge solid copper wire 22 feet - available from Lowes or electrical supply

SO239 connector

#14 gauge solid copper wire - 6 inches

Wood 1"x0.75x24 - antenna boom

Wood 1"x0.75x23 - reflector support, holes for wire 1/2 from ends

Wood 1"x0.75x22.25 - director support, hole for wire 5/8 from ends

Wood 1"x0.75x21.5 - driven element support, holes for wire 5/8 from one end

Plexiglass 2"x3" - support for SO239 connector

Miscellaneous wood screws

1 wire lug for #14 wire to fit a 4-40 screw

4 4-40 screws 0.5 length, nuts and lock washers

Elements (6 gauge wire)	Length (inches)	1 Side Length (inches)
Reflector	88.75	22.0
Driven	84.50	21.0
Director	79.25	19.75

Upcoming Public Service & Events

December 2006

Upcoming Contests

Jan 1 - ♦ Straight Key Night
 Jan 6-7 - ♦ RTTY Round-up
 Jan 20-22 - ♦ January VHF Sweepstakes
 Feb 17-18 - ♦ International DX Contest (CW)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Phases of the Moon 12/05 Full Moon 12/12 Last Quarter 12/20 New Moon 12/27 First Quarter				1  160M Contest 2200 UTC Friday- 1600 UTC Sunday	2 VE Testing- Registration: 1 p.m. Testing begins: 2 p.m.
3	4	5 Court Hearing for W3LL	6 Club Meeting: 7:30 p.m.	7	8	9  10M Contest 0000 UTC on Saturday- 2359 UTC Sunday
10	11	12	13 Club Fundraising Committee Meeting: 7:30 p.m.	14	15	16
17	18 Deadline- January 07 Issue of <i>The Modulator</i>	19	20 Club Meeting: 7:30 p.m.	21	22	23
24/31 Christmas Eve/ New Year's Eve	25 Christmas Day	26 Deadline- Feature Articles for February 07 Issue of <i>The Modulator</i>	27	28	29	30

Maryland EC Roster

October 23, 2006

Name: Douglas P. Lindsey, Jr
Nickname: Doug
Appointment: SEC
Address: 9919 Chessington Way
City, State, Zip: Bowie, MD 20721
Jurisdiction: MDC
Callsign: KB3HER
Cell Phone: 240.460.3336
Home Phone: 301-925-3227
Work Phone: 301-925-3229
Email Address: dgroup@verizon.net

Name: Hank E. Vandeursem
Nickname: Hank
Appointment: DEC
Address: PO Box 237
City, State, Zip: Lisbon, MD 21765-0237
Jurisdiction: MDC
Callsign: KB3LMM
Cell Phone: 443-285-1397
Email Address: kb3lmm@arrl.net

Name: William M. Tucker
Nickname: Bill
Appointment: EC
Address: 936 National Hwy
City, State, Zip: Cumberland, MD 21502-7326
Jurisdiction: ALLE
Callsign: K3UEZ
Home Phone: 301-729-2544
Work Phone:
Email Address: k3uez@arrl.net

Name: John F. Winner, Jr.
Nickname: Frank
Appointment: EC
Address: 283 Oak Ct.
City, State, Zip: Severna Park, MD 21146-3134
Jurisdiction: ANAR
Callsign: N3SEO
Home Phone: 410-647-3335
Email Address: n3seo@arrl.net
Pager: Number: 410-280-7539

Name: James Cundiff
Nickname: Jim
Appointment: EC
Address: PO Box 34002
City, State, Zip: Essex, MD 21221-8002
Jurisdiction: BALT
Callsign: KB3GFC
Home BBS:
Home Phone: 410-686-9199

Work Phone: 410-917-1220
Email Address: kb3gfc@arrl.net
Pager: Number: 410-597-6600 then ID 3671

Name: Dennis Bowling
Nickname: Dennis
Appointment: EC
Address: 1687 Paris Oaks Rd.
City, State, Zip: Owings, MD 20736-9524
Jurisdiction: CALV
Callsign: N3QHC
Home BBS:
Home Phone: 410-286-0180
Work Phone:
Cell Phone: 410-610-9220
Email Address: n3qhc@verizon.net
Pager: Number:

Name: Steve C. Beckman
Nickname: Steve
Appointment: EC
Address: 2145 Bethel Rd
City, State, Zip: Finksburg, MD 21048
Jurisdiction: CARR
Callsign: N3SB
Home BBS:
Home Phone: 410-876-1482
Work Phone: 410-583-4321
Email Address: n3sb@qis.net
Pager: Number:

Name: George P Remhof
Nickname: George
Appointment: EC
Address: 140 Harrisville Road
City, State, Zip: Colora, MD 21917-1302
Jurisdiction: CECI
Callsign: KB3LJB
Home Phone: 410-658-9564
Work Phone: 410-628-6696
Cell Phone: 443-466-7005
Email Address: KB3LJB@ARRL.NET

Name: Jason Hopkins
Nickname: Jason
Appointment: EC
Address: 38225 Zane Ct
City, State, Zip: Mechanicsville MD 20659
Jurisdiction: CHAR
Callsign: N3NTX
Home BBS:
Home Phone: 301-290-1773
Cell Phone: 240-682-1927

Email Address: lawman349@verizon.net
Pager Number:

Name: Norman Kaplan
Nickname: Norman
Appointment: EC
Address: 2605 Loma St
City, State, Zip: Silver Spring, MD 20902
Jurisdiction: D.C.
Callsign: N3LDM
Home BBS:
Home Phone: 301-649-6389
Work Phone:
Email Address: nkaplan@reactintl.org
Pager Number:

Name: Eric L. Gammeter
Nickname: Eric
Appointment: EC
Address: 10494 Balmoral Pl.
City, State, Zip: New Market, MD 21774-6947
Jurisdiction: FRED
Callsign: N8AAY
Home BBS:
Home Phone: 301-865-0865
Work Phone: 301-696-7899
Email Address: n8aay@verizon.net
Cell/Pager Number: 301-471-7654

Name: William Shomo
Nickname: Bill
Appointment: EC
Address: 116 S. 8th St.
City, State, Zip: Oakland, MD 21550
Jurisdiction: GARR
Callsign: KB3FMJ
Home BBS:
Home Phone: 301-334-2997
Cell Phone #1: 304-813-2013
Cell Phone #2: 301-616-5026
Email Address: bshomo@iceweb.net
Pager Number:

Name: Patrick Scolla
Nickname: Pat
Appointment: EC
Address: 401 Woodridge Ct.
City, State, Zip: Fallston, MD 21047
Jurisdiction: HARF
Callsign: WB0EGR
Home BBS:
Home Phone: 410-877-0750
Work Phone: 410-612-6520
Cell Phone: 410-961-0163
Email Address: wb0egr@comcast.net;
scollap@battelle.org

Pager: Number:

Name: Richard D. Firestone
Nickname: Rich
Appointment: EC
Address: 7401 Hickory Log Cir
City, State, Zip: Columbia, MD 21045
Jurisdiction: HOWA
Callsign: AB3BQ
Home BBS:
Home Phone: 410-309-1984
Work Phone: 301-763-8000 X7580
Email Address: ab3bq@arri.net
Pager: Number:

Name: John Hamm
Nickname: Jeff
Appointment: EC
Address: 118 Pine Street
City, State, Zip: Chestertown, Maryland 21620
Jurisdiction: KENT
Callsign: WA6LHQ
Home BBS:
Home Phone: 410-810-0488
Work Phone: 410-778-1342
Email Address: n3tf@atlanticbb.net,
also ghamm2@washcoll.edu
Pager: Number:

Name: Fred Bader
Nickname: Fred
Appointment: EC
Address: P O Box 2993
City, State, Zip: Gaithersburg, MD 20886-2993
Jurisdiction: MONT
Callsign: K3CSX
Home BBS:
Home Phone: 301-540-1188
Cell Phone: 240-401-9111
Email Address: k3csx@arri.net
Pager: Number:

Name: Kenneth Greenhouse
Nickname: Ken
Appointment: EC
Address: 4910 Ashford Dr
City, State, Zip: Upper Marlboro, MD 20772
Jurisdiction: PRGE
Callsign: KB3IIE
Home BBS:
Home Phone: 301-627-8255
Work Phone: 301-583-2056
Cell Phone: 301-509-3522
Email Address: KFG301@aol.com
Pager: Number:

Name: Rob Hoyt
Nickname: Rob
Appointment: EC
Address: 46860 Hilton Dr, Apt 1722
City, State, Zip: Lexington Park, MD 20653-3736
Jurisdiction: STMA
Callsign: N20MC
Home BBS:
Cell Phone: 301-643-6561
Email Address: n2omc@arrl.net
Pager: Number:

Name: Robert Long
Nickname: Bob
Appointment: EC
Address: 10618 Roberts Lane
City, State, Zip: Hagerstown, MD 21741
Jurisdiction: WASH
Callsign: KD3JK
Home BBS:
Home Phone: 301-824-5132
Work Phone: 301-790-2800 x 495
Email Address: rjlong61@myactv.net
Pager: Number: 301-745-2783

LOCAL ARES NETS

ALLE Primary (Repeater) Frequency: 146.88, PL 123.0
Simplex Frequency: 146.52
Day: Monday
Time: 1900 local
Week: Every

ANAR Primary (Repeater) Frequency: 146.805 (PL107.2)
Secondary (Repeater) Frequency: 442.300 (PL107.2)
Tertiary (Repeater) Frequency: 449.125 (PL107.2)
Simplex Frequency: 147.495
Day: Sunday
Time: 2000 local
Week: Every

BALT Primary (Repeater) Frequency: 145.33
Secondary (Repeater) Frequency: 146.67
Simplex Frequency: 146.550
Day: Tuesday
Time: 1930 local
Week: First

CALV Primary (Repeater) Frequency: 146.985 (PL156.7)
Secondary (Repeater) Frequency:
Simplex Frequency: 146.58
Day: Monday
Time: 2000 local
Week: Every

CARR Primary (Repeater) Frequency: 145.410 (PL114.8)
Primary Simplex Frequency: 146.475

Secondary Simplex Frequency: 147.480
Day: Tuesday
Time: 2030 local
Week: Every

CHAR Primary (Repeater) Frequency: 443.700/145.390
Secondary (Repeater) Frequency: 443.700/145.390/
146.850

Simplex Frequency: 146.535
Day: Thursday
Time: 2000 local
Week: Every

FRED Primary (Repeater) Frequency: 147.060 (PL123.0)
Simplex Frequency: 146.58
Day: Monday
Time: 1930 local
Week: Every

GARR Primary (Repeater) Frequency: 146.805 (PL 123.0)
Primary (Simplex) Frequency: 146.55
Secondary (Simplex) Frequency: 147.55
Day: Sunday
Time: 2000 local
Week: Every

HOWA Primary (Repeater) Frequency: 147.135
(PL156.7)
Secondary (Repeater) Frequency: 147.39
Simplex Frequency: 146.43
Day: Tuesday
Time: 1930 local
Week: First and Third

KENT Primary (Repeater) Frequency: 147.375
Simplex Frequency: 146.43
Day: Tuesday
Time: 2000 local
Week: Every

MONT Primary (Repeater) Frequency: 146.955
Secondary (Repeater) Frequency: 145.45 / 443.90
Simplex Frequency: 146.46 and 147.51
Day: Tuesday
Time: 2000 local
Week: Every

PRGE Primary (Repeater) Frequency: 146.610
Secondary (Repeater) Frequency: 146.880
Tertiary (Repeater) Frequency: 147.150 (PL114.8)
Day: Tuesday
Time: 2030 local
Week: First, Third and Fifth

STMA Primary (Repeater) Frequency: 146.64
Secondary (Repeater) Frequency: 146.775
Simplex Frequency: 146.49
Day: Monday

Time: 2000 local
Week: Every, except National Holidays

WASH Primary (Repeater) Frequency: 146.940
(WASH AREA/RACES Net)

Day: Tuesday
Time: 1900 local
Week: Every

Secondary (Repeater) Frequency: 147.090
(Four States Net)
Day: Thursday

Time: 1900 local
Week: Every

Tertiary (Repeater) Frequency: 147.375
Primary ERN Frequency: 146.820 (PL156.7)
Secondary ERN Frequency: 146.925 (PL156.7)

Primary CRN Frequency: 147.105 (PL107.2)
Secondary CRN Frequency: 146.760

Primary WRN Frequency: 147.090
Secondary WRN Frequency: 146.730

“Contest” from page 5

80 through out the night and knocked out all but 5 sections. At 10 am we decided to break and come back at 3 pm to work the last 7 hours and stay within the rule of working no more than 24 hours. When we split at 10 am we had South Carolina, North Dakota, British Columbia, Northwest Territories and Quebec left.

We gathered back at 2 pm to get ready to nail the last 5 sections. While N3WD was lost in the Ravens game, Mark went to work on the last five. Mark was able to knock out South Carolina. After the Ravens game I joined the gang in search out the last five. Mark got on the spotting nets and I got on 20 meters. We soon were able to knock out British Columbia and then a little later we got North Territories. Mark took over the radio and I went to spotting. We saw a Quebec station on the spotting nets on 40 meters and mark jumped on it. We soon had Quebec bagged and were after North Dakota.

With over 2 hour left we were sure North Dakota would fall. Mark went back to spotting and I went back to 20 meters searching for North Dakota. Mark yelled out that North Dakota was at 14.273 and I was on it like you know what. Unfortunately with a California station at 14.273.5 and a Colorado station at 14.272, I never heard North Dakota. We were still determined to get that last section. Back to spotting and back to searching. We decided to go to 40 meters and Mark took over the radio while I spotted.

With about 45 minutes left in the contest I saw a spotting of North Dakota on 40 meters. Unfortunately we never found that station. We worked some stations watched the spots and even tried 80 meters with no luck. The finals were 543 contacts, 79 of 80 sections and a score of 85,794. I know we all had fun and wish there were more BARC members there to participate.

Bill, N3WD



For Sale

Subject: AERO Club Towers

The club has one 50 foot and one 60 foot fold over style tower. These towers are a “military style” 7 inch on side triangular rod type. Each tower has a heavy duty steel fold over base. These towers are designed to be guyed. Tower sections are 10 feet long and bolt together. If anyone would like to examine these please ask them to call me. Thanks.

RonDistler@aol.com or by twisted pair 410-256-9018

1: MW-35 35 ft steel telescoping tower with hinged base, roof bracket,
3 winches, Cushcraft A-3 Tribander antenna, CD-45 Rotator.
MAKE AN OFFER

2: TS820S Kenwood Transceiver plus VF-820 VFO, SP820 speaker,
AT200 Tuner and MC-50 mic. \$500 for the rig package.

3: MLA-1200 Dentron amp plus MFJ989C tuner \$400

Contact *Lee, W3FQE 410-321-6856* or email *captry1st@aol.com*

All in service at this time

For FREE

2 Parabolic Antennas one 10 ft and one 12 ft diameter. These are commercial cable TV antennas previously used by Flight Systems Cable, a predecessor of Comcast in Baltimore. Will accept the highest bids. A bid that is an offer “to remove for free” will be considered. Contact Dan Hodge (ex-W9AQR), President, Anchorage Tower Condominium Association, at *dan.hodge@cox.net*, 410-534-4850, or 703-599-2659. These need to be removed in a relatively short timeframe. Please call soon.

Thanks!

Dan Hodge, ex-W9AQR



VE Report - November 2006

A Laurel ARC Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (LARC VEC) affiliated testing session was held at the BARC Meeting and Training Facility in Owings Mills, MD, on Saturday, November 4. Ten people took exams for either their initial ham license or to upgrade their license.

The examinees achieved the following:

Became new Technician Class licensee

Alan Atchley KB3OEV

Joe Pecora KB3OEW

Became new General Class licensee

David Adam KB3OEU

Upgraded to General Class licensee

Thomas Hall N3OYO

Stephen Howard KI4RCY

Became new Amateur Extra Class licensee

Dharma Prasad Agrahar AB3EH

Overall, Eleven tests were passed out of seventeen administered:

Element 1 (5 WPM CW): 67%

Element 2 (Technician Written): 57%

Element 3 (General Written): 100%

Element 4 (Extra Written): 50%

Thanks to the Volunteer Examiners who made the session possible:

Bill Dobson N3WK

Doc Sanders W3FYA

Tom Hendricks KB3CVS

Robin Schaefer AA3SB

Russ Kaufman N3YI

Rusty Schaefer N3WKE

Jerry Matthews N3XWT

Doug Wittich N3VEJ

Last testing session for 2006 at the BARC facility is Saturday, December 2, 2006. Registration opens at 1:00 PM and testing starts at 2:00 PM. To pre-register for the exam session, please send email to *n3wke at arrl.net*.

73, Rusty N3WKE

VE Team Leader

Our VEC that processes for the FCC: <http://larcmdorg.doore.net/vec/>

The **MODULATOR**

The Baltimore Amateur Radio Club,
P.O. Box 120
Reisterstown, MD 21136-0120

The Baltimore Amateur Radio Club
Repeater System **W3FT**

Frequency	PL
146.07/146.67	107.2
222.64/224.24	107.2
444.625/449.625	107.2

simplex: 146.55

web: <http://www.baltarc.com>

NON-PROFIT ORG.

U.S. POSTAGE

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