

# The Modulator

Newsletter of The Baltimore Amateur Radio Club, Inc



## BARC is 60 Years Old This Month!



# The MODULATOR

published by *The Baltimore Amateur Radio Club*

P.O. Box 120

Reisterstown, MD 21136

For Information, dial **410-HAM-TALK**

Club website: <http://www.baltarc.com>

Hamboree website: <http://www.gbhc.org>

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Vice President Ed Kriston K3CAV

Treasurer William Dobson N3WD

Secretary Val Purvis W3VAL

Members at Large Hale Adams N3NYC

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W3FT Trustee	Doug Wittich	N3VEJ at arrl.net
Membership	Hale Adams	N3NYC
Legislative Affairs Team	Tom Coates	N3IJ at comcast.net 410-933-9344
Programs	Tom Coates	N3IJ at comcast.net

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

*The Modulator*, 3607 Klausmier Rd

Baltimore, MD 21236

or email to *modulator at 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.

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**PUBLIC SERVICE REPORT**

BARC provides service to the communities surrounding our Club facility in Reisterstown, MD. Our service area extends more than 20 miles and covers a large majority of the Baltimore metropolitan area.

Our members have provided specialized communication modes for numerous situations.



*The Reisterstown Mustang Cheerleaders car wash raises money for their rec program*

The examinees achieved the following:

**Became new Technician Class licensee**

- Don Kloker **KB3PRM**
- Lorin Lund **KB3PRL**
- Stephanie Piet **KB3PRK**

**Upgraded to General Class licensee**

- Gary Hoffman **KB3PNV**
- Dan Kuespert **W9WCE**
- Don Nissley **K3IAX**

**Overall, five tests were passed out of five administered:**

- Element 2 (Technician Written): 100%
- Element 3 (General Written): 100%
- Element 4 (Extra Written): N/A

**Thanks to the Volunteer Examiners who made the session possible:**

- Hale Adams N3NYC
- Don Friedmann W3QYL
- Russ Kaufman N3YI
- Jerry Matthews N3XWT
- Doc Sanders W3FYA
- Robin Schaefer AA3SB
- Rusty Schaefer N3WKE
- Joe Tracey KB3LNM
- Doug Wittich N3VEJ

Next testing session at the BARC facility is Sunday, October 7, 2007. Registration opens at 1:30 PM and testing starts at 2:00 PM. For information about the next exam session, please send email to [n3wke at arrl.net](mailto:n3wke@arrl.net).

73, Rusty N3WKE  
VE Team Leader

## BARC CALENDAR

Saturday, September 1<sup>st</sup> VE Testing  
Check in at 1:30, Starting at 2 PM

Wednesday, September 5<sup>th</sup> Club Business Meeting at facility  
7:30 PM at the facility

Saturday & Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> – The Reisterstown Festival.  
Saturday 7:30 AM until 11:30 PM & Sunday 10 PM AM until 6 PM.

Saturday, September 8 – 10<sup>th</sup> – VHF QSO Party  
Check [www.ARRL.org/contest/rules/2007/sepvhf.html](http://www.ARRL.org/contest/rules/2007/sepvhf.html) for details

Saturday, September 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> BARC Special Event Station  
Saturday, 7:30 AM until 11:30 & Sunday, 7:30 PM until 8:00 PM

Saturday, September 15<sup>th</sup> BARC 60<sup>th</sup> Club Anniversary  
Cook-out & party starts in the afternoon. Refer to your Constant Contact email for more information.

Wednesday, September 19<sup>th</sup> Program Meeting  
7:30 PM at the facility  
FAR vice-president Diane Zimmerman AA3OF - Speaker

CONTINUOUS: Monthly Contests are found on the ARRL website at:  
[www.ARRL.org/contests/](http://www.ARRL.org/contests/)

CONTINUOUS: People are working on GBH&C, our ONLY fundraiser. If you want to help out, please send email to w3ft67 at yahoo.com or call 443-590-1444.

### Meeting & Activities Location

Baltimore Amateur Radio Club  
12360 Owings Mills Boulevard  
Reisterstown, MD  
410-526-4263

## FOR SALE or WANTED

**YAESU FT-757 GX-II with WARC and MARS conversion.  
YAESU FT-107 or related components, e.g. Tuner/VFO.**  
Contact Marty – KB3MXM at ARRL.Net

**Do you have any used test equipment or any spare hand tools, e.g. multi-meter, oscilloscope, screwdrivers or pliers for BARC Repair/Testing Lab.** Your donated items must be in clean and working order. Please bring your donated items to the next club meeting.



OLD QST's. Charlie Voelkel W3ROO has an incredible collection that will be heading to paper recycling if someone doesn't contact him for them. Cvoelkel at erols.com

To have your FOR SALE or WANTED see here,

Send email with your email request to:  
[wittich AT comcast.net](mailto:wittich@comcast.net) or send paper, see page 2.

- Include a description with manufacture's name, model number, accessories and options.
- Contact information you want buyers to use, such as An email address and/or phone number
- If you are interested in a swap, include additional details or examples

## MEMBERSHIP

It's that time of year again! BARC uses a membership year, from October 1 to Sept 30. All memberships expire on the same date. We are currently processing the renewals. If we have an email address on file for you, we are sending your renewal by email, with a PDF file attached of your renewal form. If we don't have an email address for you, or the email bounces, then we will mail a printed copy to you.

We ask that you complete the renewal without delay, and return it. In some cases, we may have already received your payment, so the form will show an expiration date of 2008 or later already. Please update any information, sign and return the form to us. No payment is needed in this case.

For those that used to enjoy the "Life" membership, we ask that you renew as a "Retired" category. This was instituted by a bylaw change in 2006 when the Life category was removed.



## BARC ELECTION RESULTS

POSITION	NAME	TERM ENDS
President	Marty Pittinger	2009
Vice President	Ed Kristen	2008
Treasurer	William Dobson	2009
Secretary	Val Purvis	2008
Members at Large	Hale Adams	2009
	Myles Carpeneto	2008
	Norm Lorenzen	2008

## BARC 60<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY

In September, we celebrate our 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary as an Amateur Radio Club. Our existence for 60 years marks a turning point in the Baltimore Amateur Radio Club and merits an extra special event; where BARC members, family, friends and guests join together for a delightful time of friendship and reunions.

In addition to our reunion, in true Amateur Radio style an event station will be held on Saturday the 15<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 16<sup>th</sup>.

Our picnic style cookout will begin on Saturday afternoon and end sometime that evening. We have kept the cost low and everyone attending should offer \$5 to cover their portion of the activities.

Lets start by taking a look back to 1947 and into the early years of BARC and Amateur Radio.

Pioneers in Amateur Radio brought much military style radio equipment into amateur service after a long black-out imposed by WW-II. After a few experimental years, the Korean War and the beginning of the Cold War changed amateur radio but it brought new technology.

In the late 40's a home brew transmitter would produced about 10 watts of A1 CW on the 80 and 160 meter bands. As FM broadcast signals started to migrate into the home, amateurs were looking for something new. By the 50's, transmitters and receivers where beginning to have excellent performance and appearance.



## BARC 60<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY - continued

Companies like Hammond and Drake, started to produce shortwave radio in the mid-50's and amateur radio transceiver, by early 1963.

Other manufactures created amateur radio equipment, such as, Collins, Drake, Hallicrafters, Hammarlund, Heathkit, Lafayette, National.



As the 60's more to the 70's, amateur radio exploded in popularity and Vietnam brought more military gear into amateur ownership.

Eventually tubes were replaced with transistors then processors and equipment size decreased through the 80's and 90's.

Now you can talk around the world on an H/T - 73  
Early Black & White TV cameras where used around the early 50's and transmitted on the 70cm band.

In the early 70's, EME was well underway as the FCC granted waivers to Amateur Radio Operators to use power exceeding the current restriction.

SHF or microwave was another easy challenge for amateurs. Soon they had portable compact units capable of communication over many miles.

Early Amateur Satellite opened a new window into Amateur Radio communication. It allowed an Amateur to communicate with another over 10's, 100's or 1000's of miles away using easily obtainable equipment or home built units.

When home computers and Amateur Radio equipment finally got connected the digital world changed forever.

Now you can talk around the world on an H/T - 73

## SILIENT KEY – KA3UPS

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of fellow HAM, Harry (Bud) Shenton Jr. on May 31, 2007. A resident of Phoenix Maryland and holding a General Class License, Harry made many friends while being an Amateur Radio Operator. Harry W. "Bud" Shenton Jr., a retired real estate appraiser and a collector also found time to be involved in his community as President of the Towson Jaycess from 1987 to 1988. Harry (Bud) Shenton Jr. was 78. His interment is at the St. James Episcopal Church Cemetery in Monkton, Maryland.

### Silent Key

I sit with watchful ears amidst tone and constant clutter,  
To find his station last I heard with speed and certain matter

I know his hand on perfect key, to tap a quicken code  
To find a station he has not yet heard or may not every know

I sit there as if paralyzed, taking steady notes  
My time will come to send to him and tell him of what I boast

A dozen words in rhythmic style have passed between us now  
The code is heard again from him of what he does and how

Many tales are told of signal lost and many more that faded  
To find the other in perfect pitch of signals much more greater

I quicken now to reach him soon so little time to copy  
I have to say I know it's him, a call, his name, or party

His finger speaks to tell us all, of hope we all must bear  
His call sign always heard this time, every night, right down here

I have not heard his hand to key for so many nights I waited  
Only silent come from all around the band completely parted.

When late one night I hear his call, the card he sent to me  
His Silent Key our heart-felt loss, why it should not be

## OUR SCHOLERSHIP PROGRAM

We received notification from Ms Zimmerman in July and a formal letter was sent to each scholarship winners shortly afterwards.

The Foundation's Scholarship Committee completed their evaluation of this year's applications and made fifty-eight awards. This year's winners of the Baltimore Amateur Radio Club scholarships are:

Rebecca Milton, KB3GFG is a junior studying Spanish and International Studies with a 4.0 grade-point average last year at a Maryland University.

Rebecca writes: "Thank you very much for the generous scholarship; it was kind of you to give it to me and lesson my tuition expenses. ' She continues to say, "I have not had time to put towards studying for General Class License, but hope to have some within the next year."



*Brothers Eric and Vic attend our club meeting. See their Thank You letter on the back cover.*

Victor Curtis, KB3BTD, is this year winner of the Enie Dobos Memorial Scholarship. As a junior, he's studying Computer Science and Engineering at a Maryland University.

Eric Curtis, KB3JTD, an incoming freshman attending a Maryland University this fall; planning to major in engineering and music. He holds a Technician class license.



Christa McClenny, KB2JIU, will be a freshman at a Virginia University this fall. She will pursue a degree in elementary education. She holds a Technician class license. Chrita writes, in part "I am greatly honored to have been presented with one of this's Baltimore Amateur Radio Club Scholarships. I appreciate the Club's generosity very much. "

Derek Wood, KB2NXY, is a junior studying Electrical Engineering at a Maryland University. He holds a Technician class license.

We wish our scholarship winners the very best in their academic pursuits and hope to hear from them often.

For more information about The Foundation for Amateur Radio, Inc visit their website at: [www.amateurradio-far.org](http://www.amateurradio-far.org).

### *Foundation for Amateur Radio program meeting September 19<sup>th</sup>*

The Baltimore Amateur Club will host The Foundation for Amateur Radio scholarship program is the oldest (over 35 years) amateur radio scholarship program in the United States. This year, the FAR program will administrator 58 scholarships on half of 35 sponsors, with no administrative cost to the sponsors. An all-volunteer, all-Ham scholarship committee reads every application and deliberates to award the scholarships to the best-qualified hams.

The FAR administers five scholarships on behalf of the Baltimore Amateur Radio Club. FAR vice-president Diane Zimmerman, AA3OF, heads the scholarship committee and will be at our September 19 meeting to tell us how it works and what it needs. Come out and learn about this worthy effort!

Baltimore Amateur Radio Club meeting take place at 12360 Owings Mills Boulevard. Doors open at 7:00 PM, program begins at 7:40.

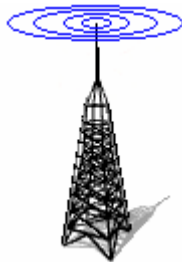
Tnx & 73

Tom Coates - N3IJ

## MARYLAND-WASHINGTON SECTION

FCC to Lower Vanity Call Sign Fees STARTING September 17 when you obtain or renew an Amateur Radio vanity call sign. Report & Order (R&O) released August 6, "Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2007," in MD Docket 07-81, the Commission will cut the fee from its current \$20.80 to \$11.70.

On Sunday, September 9, the Pentagon Amateur Radio Club (PARC) will operate a Special Event station commemorating the 6th anniversary of the attacks that occurred on the Pentagon, the World Trade Center and over Pennsylvania in 2001. Operating on 10, 15, 20, 40 and 80 meters in both phone and CW, where and when possible, with plans to operate on a 12 hour basis 8 AM - 8 PM (1200-2400 UTC). There will be a special QSL card available for stations that work K4AF. For more information, please contact Claude Hennessey, KG4TVN. QSL via PARC, PO Box 2322, Arlington, VA 22202. In addition, club members will operate from the station on Tuesday, September 11 as part of the commemoration. -- Thx Jeffery W. Wilson, AI4IO



Members of the Amateur Radio Emergency Services team will offer their talents to provide communication support for the first-ever Annapolis Triathlon on Sunday morning. They will use Automatic Position Reporting System technology to display a map of the lead racer's location. For information, call Ted Redick (K3TED) at 410-647-2795.

I

If you have news worthy articles – send them to the editor

## IN THE NEWS

The Baltimore Amateur Radio Club was visited by Susan C. Ingram, Community Time staff writer on Wednesday, August 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. She wrote about our club and the many Amateurs come to learn about and enjoy our hobby.

Appearing in the August 22 – 25 issue and available online at the link shown below, she writes about our long history dating back to 1947; following WW-II when all amateur communication was halted for the safety of our county.

Today, our many members communicate world-wide, but the most important communication is with the membership and community. The article continues with the story of the new amateur radio Operator or HAM and the preparedness, mentoring and devotion to a way of communication that has lasted for more than a century.

An interesting portion of the article talk about Johnathan, a 13-year-old from Eldersburg and his interest in Amateur Radio. She talked about his early introduction to amateur radio by his father when he started to study, so Johnathan soon picked up on the training. He passed his Technician Class License in January and proceeded to earn his General Class License in August.

This sense of independence shows in our Annual Field Day activities. Held in June each year, members join others to participate in a remote location. Erecting many types of aerial antenna operating on many Amateur Radio bands and using a variety of communication equipment e.g. HF/VHF the group connects with other remote or home-based station using Satellites, Morse Code, Voice and a myriad of digital modes.

The Community Times article is found on the web at:

<http://www.communitytimes.com/default.asp?sourceid=&smenu=65&twindow=&mad=&sdetail=5235&wpage=1&skeyword=&sidate=&ccat=&ccatm=&restate=&restatus=&reoption=&retype=&repmin=&repmax=&rebed=&rebath=&subname=&pform=&sc=1049&hn=communitytimes&he=.com>

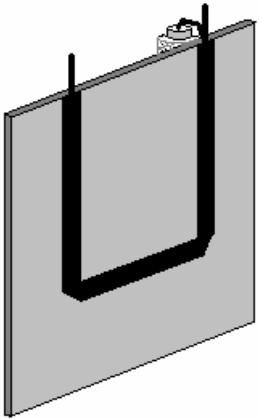
or <http://www.communitytimes.com> and look at the bottom of the web page for a link to: [22 AUG.07 Amateur radio club hits the airwaves.](#)

## PROJECT CORNER

Our monthly publication of a project you can build using a few hand-tools and some basic materials. The project will be built at the club in September.

This month's project is a popular 23 cm Yagi used for 1250 - 1280 MHz. The 23 cm band or 1240 - 1300 MHz was adapted for Amateur Television, Packet and FM Phone use many years ago. This compact Yagi can provide approximately 12 dBd gain.

Below, is a portion of details provided by Christchurch Amateur Television group - DL6WU at <http://www.geocities.com/chchatv/23cm.html>.



The Coax braid is soldered to the ground back-side of the double-sided PC board. The center of the Coax center is soldered to the front side where two wires have been attached to the folder for the Driven Elements.

The BALUN is cut from a small scrap PC Board. The matching stub can be etched or cut with a hobby knife and excess peeled away.

Leave enough PC Board below the matching stub to mount it to the antenna boom.

The size and ease of construction make this a good candidate for staking, so consider making several and benefit from the increase gain.

Amateurs interested in participating in a club project must provide all materials from their project. The club may have most common hand tools but it is recommended you bring all tools.

Please send us your project digital photographs and short descriptions so we can share them with other members.

Dear Mr. Krysztoforski and The Baltimore Amateur Radio Club (BARC),

My family and I are speechless we can't begin to thank you and The Baltimore Amateur Radio Club for choosing both my brother, Eric, and me to receive your incredibly generous scholarships. It is really hard to find the words to tell you just how grateful we all are and how much these scholarships will help our family pay for tuition, room and board, and books for my brother and myself.

I am working full time over the summer as an intern for the Architect of the Capitol I work with the grounds crew cutting grass, gardening, etc. I am up and on the road by 4:30 a.m. and at work by 6 a.m. and am happy to have a great opportunity to earn money for school. My brother works at Panera Bread in Waldorf a job he has had for 2 years in which he often works double shifts 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. during the week and on weekends. We are both members of the Southern Maryland Amateur Radio Club (SMARC) and participated in Field Day this year which was once again held at our home in Brandywine, Maryland. Many of the members of SMARC, particularly my brother, Eric, and my Dad, work in cooperation with the Southern Maryland Chapter of the American Red Cross located in LaPlata, Maryland. SMARC has helped outfit and maintain a communications vehicle (they call a "Hambulance") that provides mobile communications to support the Red Cross. We attend meetings and activities when we are not in school or working and have many friends in the amateur radio community.

We are both going to Frostburg State University this Fall I am studying for a degree in Computer Science and my brother will be starting in Engineering. As you know, I am a member of the TKE (Tai Kappa Epsilon) fraternity which encourages its membership to volunteer in the community.

Thank you all again so much!

Sincerely,  
Vic R. Curtis, KB3BTD

Dear Mr. Krysztoforski and The Baltimore Amateur Radio Club (BARC),

My brother, Vic, has written to thank you for the scholarships awarded to the both of us but I also wanted to thank you for your great generosity. I am so grateful that you have chosen me and your scholarship money will be used to help pay for tuition.

I will be a freshman at Frostburg State University this fall and am looking forward to college life. I have been working all summer at my job at Panera Bread in Waldorf where I have been employed part-time for the past 2 years. I play the tenor, alto, baritone and soprano saxophones and enjoy jazz and performing in an ensemble. I graduated from Thomas Stone High School this past June and was a member of the marching band, symphonic band and jazz ensemble. I was the recipient of the Louis Armstrong Jazz Award; one of the most prestigious awards in local high school music programs. During my senior year in high school, I auditioned and was allowed to join the College of Southern Maryland's Jazz Ensemble, "Solid Brass." I plan on continuing playing my sax and will audition for the Frostburg Jazz Ensemble when I get to college. I am enrolled in the engineering curriculum but am also interested in English and, of course, music.

I am a member of the Southern Maryland Amateur Radio Club and am also a junior member of the Southern Maryland Chapter of the American Red Cross. I know I will miss all my friends here and I will not have access to my ham radio but I plan on staying involved in community activities at college.

Thank you all again so much for the scholarship I hope to meet you and thank you in person.

Sincerely,  
Eric J. Curtis, KB3JTD?

(Note, spacing edited to make them fit!, Ed)