

# 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>

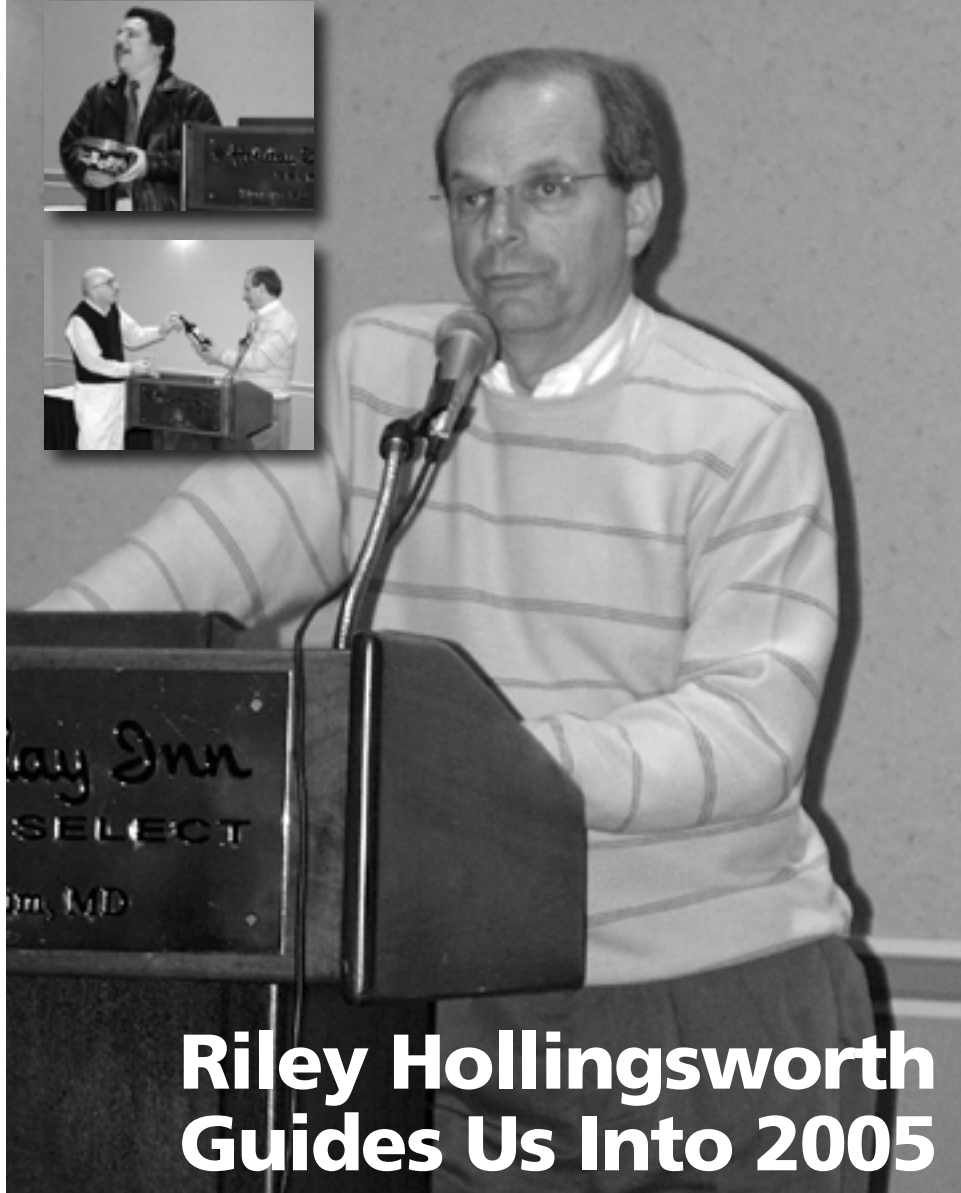
NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
BALTIMORE, MD  
PERMIT NO. 5972



February 2005 Vol. 59, No. 2

# The MODULATOR

Newsletter of the Baltimore Amateur Radio Club



## Riley Hollingsworth Guides Us Into 2005

# 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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Field Day	Ed Kriston	K3CAV	
Program Chairman	Tom Coates	N3IJ at comcast.net	410-933-9344

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

Editor  
*The Modulator*  
3607 Klausmier Rd  
Baltimore, MD 21236  
or email to [modulator@baltarc.com](mailto: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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## VE Report - February 2005

Happy New Year!

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 Sunday, January 2. Seven people took exams for either their initial ham license or to upgrade their license.

### The examinees achieved the following:

#### Became new Technician Class licensee

- Tom Kessler KB3LVM
- Dan Kuespert KB3LVN

#### Upgraded to General Class licensee

- Bill Schubert KB3LPD

### Overall, five tests were passed out of eighteen administered:

- Element 1 (5 WPM CW): 0%
- Element 2 (Technician Written): 67%
- Element 3 (General Written): 100%
- Element 4 (Extra Written): N/A

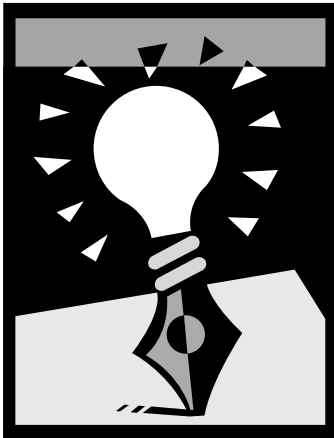
### Thanks to the Volunteer Examiners who made the session possible:

Hale Adams N3NYC      Ed Kriston K3CAV      Robin Schaefer AA3SB  
Don Friedmann W3QYL      Jerry Matthews N3XWT      Rusty Schaefer N3WKE  
Russ Kaufman N3YI

Next testing session at the BARC facility is Saturday, February 5, 2004. Registration opens at 1:00 PM and testing starts at 2:00 PM. For information about the exam session, please send email to [n3wke@arrl.net](mailto:n3wke@arrl.net) (or call Rusty Schaefer 410-247-0578).

## 73, Rusty N3WKE

*VE Team Leader*



## How to Submit to *The Modulator*

We are always looking for original works by club members about some aspect of amateur radio. You may decide to write an opinion article, or even send us something that you perhaps wrote for an email list or bulletin board someplace. Email submissions are best, but handwritten or typed copy is ok too. I confess, however, that sometimes between my mailbox and the computer, some letters just don't get typed in before they are lost in the shuffle. If you submit some-

thing, it is certainly a good idea to call me in a day or two to be sure that I have it.

Your submission does not have to be lengthy. As you can see in this issue, there are some interesting articles that are only two or three sentences. Also, if you wish for us to write it for you, then you may so indicate, and simply send us a note of thoughts. We can organize it into an article for you.

As you may have guessed by now, I wrote this at the last minute to fill this page that would have otherwise been blank. We look forward to hearing about your thoughts on amateur radio. What do you like to do best in this hobby and service?

Refer to the calendar for submission deadlines. Generally, short items can be added at the last minute (not too last-minute). Longer items should try to adhere to the deadlines set on the calendar. If you have photos, please include them in your submission as attachments. Please do not incorporate them into a Microsoft Word or other document.

If you have any questions, please contact myself or **Tom Henry, KB3JQP** at 410-882-0515 or email at *KB3JQP at arrl.net*

**Doug N3VEJ**

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**Minifest Results will be published  
in the next issue of *The Modulator*.**

## The President's Corner

We are less than two months away from our big event for 2005, the Greater Baltimore Hamboree and Computer Fest, and as I stated last month, every club member who volunteers, even if it is only for a few hours, is one less person that we have to pay to perform a task. The Hamfest is our primary source of revenue. It supports our public service activities, the scholarship fund, field day, training classes and the repeater network. It subsidizes your membership, publication of the Modulator and keeps our dues at the lowest level of any club in the area. So please, support the club, come out, lend a hand, and have fun, contact Robin, aa3sb at arrl.net and volunteer for an assignment.

By the time you read this, the club's file server will be operational; each computer in the meeting facility will have access to the internet and Echolink will be installed on the Digital station in the radio shack. All members are encouraged and welcome to use the equipment.

January's two big events are behind us, the BARC-It's Free!!! Minifest was a huge success and our first ever January program meeting was a sold out event. If you were not able to attend, be sure to read about it in the Modulator and order a copy of the program on DVD.

Field day is right around the corner, this year we will have two chairpersons, our first chair will be **Ed, K3CAV** and our second chair, if accepted, will be **Bill, N3WD**. Field Day is a 24-hour exercise (not really a contest) where radio clubs and individuals set up emergency-type stations and use them to contact other stations across the nation. The purpose is to train club members in the steps needed to respond to a real emergency, where loss of electrical power and facilities mandate quickly setting up radio stations in field-type locations, to give assistance to local relief agencies and to relay messages out of a disaster area to other parts of the country. I want BARC to be in a position to provide this service to our community and I want the community to see that we are in a position to provide this service.

Keeping that in mind, I would like the club to select a location visibly accessible to the public where we will be able to demonstrate the value of amateur radio. I will be asking the committee to publicize the event by issuing press releases, posting signs at local stores, libraries and passing out flyers describing what we are doing and why the amateur community holds the event each year. I foresee people watching as our operators log new stations, club members take turns demonstrating equipment to visitors and a Field Day PIO an-

BARC Lunch, Saturday, March 20 at 11:30 AM at Jade Garden Buffet, Loch Raven and Taylor, NE corner in the strip shopping center. email *lunch at baltarc.com* or phone *443-794-0735* to let us know you're coming so we can plan the size of the table.

## Club EMAIL "Reflectors"

The BARC Clubnews is an email list that we use to send email to club members. So far, it has not been spammed because it is password protected. If you give us an email address, you should be automatically subscribed to it.

The BARC Chatlist is an optional list you may subscribe to. Due to its small number of participants, it is not used much, but clubs that have active ones get much pleasure from it. To subscribe, send an email to "majordomo at bnetmd.net". The subject does not matter. In the body, put two lines:

```
subscribe chatlist
end
```

We will validate any email addresses against the club records, so if you use an email address different from what you gave us, we'll ask, perhaps, who you are.


To send messages to the chatlist, simply address your email to "chatlist at baltarc.com", of course, replacing the word "at" in this example with the @ sign and removing the spaces.

## WANTED: OLD Callbooks

I am in need of old US Callbooks between 1977 and 2000. I am doing a project of identifying holders of some old call signs for the 3905 Century Club, where I am the Awards Secretary. Anybody who has Old US Callbooks that would like to get rid of them, I would appreciate it. At the end of this project, I will place all the Callbooks into the BARC Library. Anybody having these can either bring them to the BARC facility or contact me via e-mail at *n3wd at arrl.net* or phone at *410-526-2154* to arrange a pick-up.

**Bill Dobson, N3WD**

## Amateur Radio Covered Bridge Society - ARCBS

I would like to introduce you to a new amateur radio society called the Amateur Radio Covered Bridge Society or ARCBS. We combine our love of amateur radio and covered bridges and have fun doing so. If you have a minute visit our website (<http://www.arcbs.org>) 


73,  
Ed, WA3WSJ  
ARCBS #1

## BARC to Hold Weekend Licensing Class

BARC will hold a class for new Technician Licenses. The class will be held in the Bel Air area. There will be a charge of \$15.75 for the book, and there may be a nominal charge of \$5 to \$10 for the class. Everyone will meet for two hours on Saturday, April 16th for an introduction session, and to get the book and reading assignments. The class will then run on April 30 from 9 to 5 and May 1st from 9 until approximately 2:30 or 3. The afternoon will be devoted to the test session.

What we need are:

1. Instructors. We'll hold an instructor's meeting in Late February for anyone that has expressed an interest.
2. Students. Obviously!

*Anyone interested in either of these roles can drop us a note to "Training Class", Baltimore Am Radio Club, PO Box 120, Reisterstown, MD 21136-0120. *

I have been running a packet system here in Frederick County Md. for sometime now. We have telnet access to the BBS. You can send and receive msgs or traffic from this location. If you have any traffic handlers they can check in and get or send traffic msgs. Please pass along to all of your clubs members.

*telnet:67.142.199.122:6300*

swers questions about emergency communications and licensing. A tradition with our club, which will continue, is to add a bit of fun and camaraderie to enhance member's enjoyment of field day. Once again, we are planning for breakfast on Sunday and food on Saturday. I encourage members to bring the whole family and invite friends to join us. The operating event will officially start on Saturday, June 25 at 2 PM, and end on Sunday, June 26 at 2 PM. Setup will probably begin Friday afternoon, and teardown will be finished by 4 PM or so.

Once again, I want to thank all those members who have contacted me over the last few months expressing their support for our initiatives.

That is all for now, and I hope to see you at the February 2nd business meeting, the February 16th program meeting, or at this month's Lunch with the President at Seasons Pizza in Cockeysville on February 17th, until then?

*Remember, this club exists because of you and it cannot exist without you!*

**Joe Kryzstoforski, AJ3X**  
**President BARC**  
**AJ3X at arrl.net**

## Committee Members Needed!

**April 2-3**  
**2005** THE GREATER BALTIMORE  
HAMBOREE AND COMPUTERFEST 

**We need committee members to help prepare:**

- **upcoming vendor mailings**
- **make calls**
- **find vendors from advertising and internet searches**
- **help to plan and operate the event.**

**Contact, Robin, AA3SB at 410-247-0578.**

## Meeting Programs

### February: (Previously scheduled for March.)

Homebrew projects by members. We read about old radio in *QST*, but **Bruce Packham, W3UWV**, has created replicas of *really* old radio – station equipment from the Marconi years. **Hale Adams, N3NYC**, will show us a seldom-seen form of impedance bridge. Plus, there's also the possibility of an emergency lighting system, if the member can get the doorbell-simple gadget working in time.

### March (rescheduled from February):

#### Steve Uhrig, WA3SWS - The inside story of "Enemy of the State."

The blockbuster technothriller movie, featuring Gene Hackman and Will Smith, was filmed largely in the Baltimore area. The producer, Jerry Bruckheimer and the director, Tony Scott, both are top names themselves. **Steve Uhrig, WA3SWS**, a local technical surveillance expert, was the inspiration for Hackman's character in the movie and was a full time consultant on the production.

### Subsequent programs, all on the third Wednesday of each month:

**April:** John Morrison – *DXing on 2 Meters - IRLP & ECHOLINK*

**May:** Bob Zimmerman – *Life Without Gravity: Amateur Radio and the International Space Station*

**June:** TBA

**July:** Tom Abernathy, WA3TOM – *What's Up in the ARRL MDC Section*

### More about March program:

The theme of "Enemy of the State" was a rogue NSA using the cutting edge of electronic surveillance technology to target an innocent attorney played by Will Smith. Gene Hackman as a former NSA technoweenie, now working freelance, turns NSA's own technology against them to aid Smith.

Steve Uhrig, WA3SWS, was a full time consultant to the production, assisting in everything from location scouting to writing 1/3 of the script, manufacturing numerous pieces of genuine electronic intelligence equipment used in the production, being on set for all filming advising on the proper use of the equipment, and teaching Hackman and Smith to install and operate the equipment. Steve also had a minor acting part in the movie, writing his own lines in a scene with Hackman and Smith.

Steve will share a very revealing 'behind the scenes' look at a major Hollywood

## Silent Keys

### Pud Reaver, W3YD SK

It is with sadness and deep sorrow that I have been asked by Pat Reaver to let you all know that Pud died in the hospital today. The Laurel Amateur Radio Club has lost one of its founding members, past presidents, a contester and member of PVRC, a course instructor, and an avid devotee of our wonderful hobby. Pud was a member of the Prince George's County ARES/RACES program and a regular check-in with the MEPN for many years.

He will be greatly missed by the world of amateur radio.

### Jim Cross, WI3N

*Pud was a long time attendee at the Maryland State Conventions, and participated in the meetings held there. He has visited BARC a few times as well. He's been a good friend of hams in MDC and he will be missed.* –Editor

### Milton (Mike) P. Miecznikoski, N3OUU SK

Became a silent key on Friday, January 7th

Mike got his license 11 years ago through The Baltimore Amateur Radio Club. The only reason he had it was for flying model airplanes using 6 meters. He was an active member of the Baltimore Area Soaring Club, a group of model flyers.

Anyone interested in automatic music, one of the oldest forms of digital communication, should take a look at the wonderful antique and home-built instruments that were played at the Music Box Society International's summer, 2004 band organ rally at Medina, Ohio. The URL is: <http://www.ofoto.com/I.jsp?c=134htiq.ch2iday&x=0&y=-eqn-lhx> and will be activated when this message appears.

### Brom Hine, WP3H



## Go-BOX

Participate in the NEMARC club, that's North East Maryland ARC. This is a very informal club, mostly they just do nets and email lists and chat a lot on simplex (146.595). Each member posts cool things they find. Phil, W3TVT, posted info about a website that describe a Go-Box. For ARES/RACES folks, or those that like to take ham radio camping or to schools or scouts, this is really neat. This project was also printed in the August 2000 issue of *QST*.

[http://www.wi-aresraces.org/ideas\\_projects.htm](http://www.wi-aresraces.org/ideas_projects.htm)

This "how-to" web page shows everything from buying the basic box to final wiring diagram. Pretty cool. If someone does not have Internet access, and you want a copy of this web page, let me know, and I will print and mail it. —□□

**Doug N3VEJ**  
443-794-0735

## Club Directory & Records

We recently updated the club database and email lists. We found that many email addresses we have are out of date. If you did not get the emails about the The BARC-It's FREE!!! Minifest, BARC Breakfast and BARC Lunch, then either we don't have your email address correct or your spam blocker is blocking it. Please forward your correct email address to "email2005 at baltarc.com" and please safe-list the following email addresses that send the messages: *aj3x at arrl.net*, *wittich at comcast.net* and *owner-clubnews at baltarc.com*.

We would like to publish a club directory to members, but with so many inaccuracies, we'll try to get these fixed first. If you want a directory anyway, please let me know, and I will send it to you. 443-794-0735. Note, our club directory stays within the club. We use your email address to send about 20 messages a year about our activities of note, especially those that happen faster than we can get them in **The Modulator**.

production: why Hackman's character was grouchy, why the spy satellite was sending CQ, why Hackman's screen room worked \*too well\* and why NSA was using a Kenwood amateur HF transceiver to talk to Baltimore City police!

More info on the movie can be found here: <http://www.sussec.com/state.html>

## More about Steve Uhrig, WA3SWS

**STEVE UHRIG WA3SWS**, March's program speaker, is the founder and President of SWS Security, a multinational manufacturer of electronic surveillance and intelligence gathering systems for government agencies. His company provides electronic intelligence systems and support services to law enforcement, government and military entities worldwide handling such operations as drug interdiction, antiterrorism and military intelligence and counterintelligence.

Uhrig is a published author with over 300 technical articles and white papers on electronic surveillance and intelligence operations. Papers he has written are required reading for students in certain government intelligence agencies.

Uhrig formed his own company in 1972 doing small surveillance and communications projects for local police departments. In the mid 70s he entered federal government service as a full time pursuit and worked for a host of U.S. government agencies in various electronic support operations. While in government service, Uhrig worked extensively in the field with military agencies from many countries and developed a reputation for being capable and reliable, an artisan who could perform the impossible under extreme conditions.

In the mid 1980s, Uhrig left government service to devote full attention to his growing company. Since that time his firm has expanded to include facilities in 10 countries and support services to over 40 governments of other nations. He has developed electronic surveillance and intelligence gathering systems that have become the worldwide standard in the fight against terrorism, as well as state-of-the-art defense systems created to protect both people and property which also are in use around the world. Uhrig's advancements in surveillance technology in such areas as video transmission technology, electronic tracking and direction finding, communications and signal intercept, and clandestine communications have established performance standards throughout the industry.



## Riley Hollingsworth Guides Us Into 2005

In his presentation to our January program meeting, Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, FCC Special Counsel for Enforcement, provided an update on enforcement cases. But the main emphasis of his talk was to remind us that in everything we do, we represent Amateur Radio. We make recordings of BPL interference. Riley suggested we consider the possibility of turnabout. Suppose the BPL proponents recorded samples of the more flagrant foolishness on our bands and played it at an official hearing? Now, there's a nightmare.

Remembering that we always represent Amateur Radio is important for more than one reason, he said. We need to recruit new hams, and the way we act on the air and the way we deal with our neighbors on things like interference problems (and antennas, too, I think) will affect our ability to attract new Amateurs in addition to our ability to influence regulators and lawmakers.



*President Joe, AJ3X, welcomes members and guests to the Holiday Inn Select in Timonium.*


Riley said, "Something must be done to draw new people into Amateur Radio." Young people are a priority, of course, but we shouldn't overlook retirees. There will be a flood of them in the next few years. Recruiting will be easier for us if we rekindle our own enthusiasm. Trying something new is a good way to do it. Riley described his own experience with PSK-31. Not exactly his cup of tea, he said, because he spends all day looking at a computer screen, but he recalled that his first PSK-31 contact, using low power, was with a station in South Africa. That occurred several years ago, but the memory is still vivid. Riley reminded us that developing and teaching a class is another way to simultaneously recharge your enthusiasm and help newcomers get started. It's a form of giving back.

Riley had good news for us regarding enforcement cases in general: the num-



*Program Chairman thanks Speaker with bottle of homemade wine from AJ3X.*

a year, with a tally of the license classes involved. At the end of the year, he discovered that the most prevalent problems were associated with Advanced and Extra licensees. Riley paraphrased Dave Sumner, K1ZZ: "It's not what you learned to get your license, it's what you learned after you got it."

It seems to me that the simplest way for us to educate ourselves and others, too, is to return to a point Riley made several times during his talk: Always act as though you're representing Amateur Radio. 

--N3IJ

### See Riley Hollingsworth's Presentation at Home

Riley's presentation was videotaped. Copies on DVD are available. The prices are:

- Club member pick up in person: \$5.00 Shipped: \$7.50
- Non-club members picked up: \$7.50 Shipped: \$10

Payment may be sent by check or money order to **BARC at PO Box 120, Reisterstown, MD 21136** or by Paypal® at [www.paypal.com](http://www.paypal.com) to [paypal.at.gbhc.org](http://paypal.at.gbhc.org). If you use Paypal, please be sure to indicate that this is for the Riley Hollingsworth DVD, and if you want it shipped, the address. It will be sent by mail.



Attendees listen intently to Riley's presentation.

bands are shared with other services, either in the U.S. or other countries. What appears to be interference may, in fact, be perfectly legal.

Furthermore, Riley said, most interference by other Amateurs is unintentional. A lot of it, he pointed out, wouldn't happen at all if everyone involved would just demonstrate more courtesy, patience and consideration. Obviously,

traffic nets need to use the same frequency consistently, just so they can be found. But, he reminded us, "Nets have no greater right to a frequency than anyone else." So how the net asks for the frequency matters. "If they try to bully their way in, people are more likely to get their backs up and refuse to move." On the other hand, when a net has a reputation for courtesy, other operators are more likely to make way without being asked. The point of his remarks, Riley said, is education, because there is a limit to what can be done

### Who is Riley, K4ZDH?

*Riley Hollingsworth has been bitten by the ham radio bug three times now, and the third time, "the bug really gets you". His favorite operations are CW, and enough SSB to work toward DXCC and check in with a few nets. Off the air, he spends a lot of time working on vintage equipment, such as an HT37 and a Viking Valiant. The Valiant is completely restored, with a freshly painted panel that looks original. This 50-year-old, 80 pound AM rig uses 866A mercury vapor rectifiers and has three 6146's in the final. The next project, Riley declared, is to fix a slipping dial on a Drake. He has both 2-lines and 4-lines in his shack.*

*In the pre-meeting interview, Riley expressed sadness to hear that K3FT is SK. Chuck corresponded regularly with Riley (in his role at the FCC) to provide tips on unlicensed operation. Riley indicated that his speaking engagements are a relief and a pleasure because he gets to meet people that are trying to move ham radio in the right direction. In the course of his work, he meets many who are moving it in the wrong direction.*

### How to work with power companies on RFI

*When faced with a potential powerline RFI issue, Riley stressed that it is important to follow the utility company's procedure for reporting. First, verify that the problem does not originate on your property by disconnecting all a.c. and battery powered devices. If you then decide to contact the utility, use the correct phone number and be sure that your call is logged. Always be polite, but maintain your own log. If there is no resolution, contact ARRL's Ed Hare, W1RFI. He regularly works with the utilities on these matters. If there is still no success, then contacting the FCC is the final step. This takes us back to the beginning, because the first thing the FCC checks is the phone log for complaints. If the proper process is not followed on every call, then it looks like there was not an early, conscientious effort to work out the issue with the utility in the first stages. Following these steps, Riley says, will almost always solve an RFI problem, since very few of them are technically complex.*



Program Chairman, Tom N3IJ, introduces the speaker, Riley Hollingsworth, FCC Special Counsel for Enforcement.

ber of complaints is dropping every year: "Except for a small number of hard-core cases, Amateur Radio is in very good shape." The remaining cases are being handled one-by one. He mentioned one in southern California, one in New England and an examination case in California that resulted in the surrender of more than 80 licenses so far. One of the field offices is pursuing makers of 10-meter-capable CB transceivers sold mostly to truckers. The trucking companies are cooperating and retailers are coming around. The most

serious enforcement problems require the assistance of U.S. Attorneys, often overloaded with violent crime. There have been a few complaints regarding broadcasting. We were reminded that broadcasting bulletins related to Amateur Radio is not restricted (and can't be, practically), although most stations that do it run a very limited schedule. He also pointed out that several of our

*"Hollingsworth" continued on page 12*

**Upcoming Public Service & Events**

Mar 20 11:30 am - BARC lunch at Jade Garden  
 Apr 2-3, 2005 - Greater Baltimore Hamboree and Computerfest

# February 2005

**Upcoming Contests**

Mar 5-6 - ♠ Int'l DX Contest (Phone)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> Club Meeting 7:30 p.m.	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> VE Testing- Registration: 1 p.m. Testing begins: 2 p.m.
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Hamboree Committee 7:30 p.m.	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Deadline- Mar. Issue of <i>The Modulator</i>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Program Meeting - homebrew projects	<b>17</b> BARC lunch at Seasons Pizza (see below)	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Int'l DX Contest (CW) ♠ 0000 UTC Sat - 2400 UTC Sun
♠ School Club Roundup (1300 UTC Feb 14 to 0100 UTC Feb 19)						
<b>20</b> Richmond Frostfest (www.frostfest.com)	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Deadline- Feature Articles for Apr. Issue of <i>The Modulator</i>		Feb. 17, 11:30 am - BARC lunch at Season's Pizza, 10110 York Road (just north of Cranbrook). Call Doug at 443-794-0735 if you wish to attend.			<b>Phases of the Moon:</b> 02/02 Last Quarter 02/08 New Moon 02/16 First Quarter 02/24 Full Moon