

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

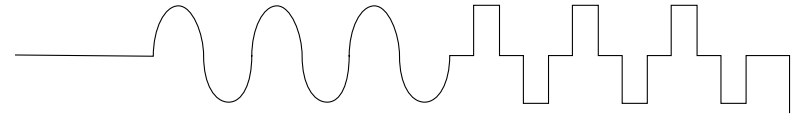
The MODULATOR

March 2006 Vol. 60, No. 3

Newsletter of the Baltimore Amateur Radio Club



THE GREATER BALTIMORE HAMBOREE AND COMPUTERFEST



March 25-26

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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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 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.

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

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VE Report - February 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, February 4. Six people took exams for either their initial ham license or to upgrade their license.

The examinees achieved the following:

Became new Technician Class licensee

Steven Meyer KB3NDD
William McDonald KB3NDE
Donal Heidenblad KB3NDF

Upgraded to General Class licensee

Donald Hiles KA9SGZ
Joseph Duva KB3LWK

Overall, six tests were passed out of nine administered:

Element 1 (5 WPM CW): 50%
Element 2 (Technician Written): 100%
Element 3 (General Written): 100%
Element 4 (Extra Written): 0%

Thanks to the Volunteer Examiners who made the session possible:

Hale Adams N3NYC Doc Sanders W3FYA Bill Dobson N3WD
Robin Schaefer AA3SB Don Friedmann W3QYL Rusty Schaefer N3WKE
Ed Kriston K3CAV

Next testing session at the BARC facility is Saturday, March 4, 2006. Registration opens at 1:00 PM and testing starts at 2:00 PM. To preregister for the exam session, please send email to *n3wke at arrl.net* (or call Rusty Schaefer 410-247-0578).

73, Rusty N3WKE

VE Team Leader

Word Game: answer


The first set is typed with alternating hands, the second set is all typed with the left hand.

Upcoming Program Meetings

March 15 Handi-Hams

Bob Martin, KC3FI, is a retired teacher (do teachers ever really retire?). Bob's background includes 37 years as a teacher, principal, director and college instructor in the field of work with the blind as well as many years as a volunteer at the Maryland School for the Blind. In addition to Handi-Hams, Bob is also affiliated with the Blind Amateur Radio Operators Group and the BRATS, where he coordinates the ATV repeater. Twice this month I traveled with Bob to Annapolis, where he taught delegates and senators about Amateur Radio. Forty years ago, management sage Peter Drucker devoted a chapter in one of his first books to the theme "Build on peoples' strengths—their limitations won't help you." Handi-Hams makes that happen. Doors open at 7, program begins at 7:30.

April 19 Laurel VEC

Diane Zimmerman, AA3OF, is the Chairman of the Laurel Amateur Radio Club Volunteer Examiner Coordinator. The February Modulator contains her annual report. At our April 19 meeting, Diane will expand on the report and answer questions about related matters. VEC teams are the key to the future of Amateur Radio. We need to talk about the future, since Amateur Radio has been shrinking for almost 3 years. Read the report and bring your questions. Doors open at 7, program begins at 7:30. 

BARC Lunch

Six intrepid members braved wind and cold on Saturday, Feb 18th to meet up at Cici's Pizza in Catonsville. Vice President, **Hale N3NYC** represented the exec board while President **Joe AJ3X** attended a section wide EMCOMM meeting in Southern Maryland. The food was good, certainly sufficient volumes, and the camaraderie was great.


The next event is breakfast in March. It will be held at the Golden Corral on Rossville Blvd, off beltway exit 32B Sunday, March 19th at 8:30 AM. 

Table of Contents

Radio Frequency Interference.....	3
The President's Corner	4
Upcoming Hamfests	5
Bylaws Changes.....	6
Lost Friend.....	6
Skywarn Training	12
Hamboree Preparation	13
Upcoming Program Meetings.....	14
BARC Lunch	14
VE Report - February 2006.....	15

Radio Frequency Interference

Special offer to ARRL affiliated club members

Have you wondered about Radio Frequency Interference? Exactly what is it, what causes it, and how to get rid of it?

For a limited time, we are offering ARRL affiliated club members the opportunity to participate in the Radio Frequency Interference online course at a \$15.00 discount. (Regular price, ARRL Members \$65.00, Nonmembers 95.00)

- Get tips and suggestions for dealing with RFI problems
- Various types of filters.
- Sources of RFI
- Forms of TV interference
- On-line course, accessible 24/7 during the 16-week session

How to Register:

Follow the links from the Radio Frequency Interference (<http://www.arrl.org/cce/courses.html#ec006>). Enter the discount code **AC42306** on the registration screen. Offer expires April 23, 2006.

Questions?

Please send questions to Jean Wolfgang, WB3IOS at cce@arrl.org.

The President's Corner

We are less than 23 days away from our first big event for 2006, the 35th annual Greater Baltimore Hamboree and Computer Fest. The funds raised through GBH&C go to support our public service activities, the scholarship fund, field day, training classes and the repeater network. So please, support the club, support your community, come out, lend a hand, and have fun. For further information or to volunteer Contact Robin, aa3sb@arrl.net or attend the committee meetings on March 8 and 22 at 7:30pm.

Remember our focus for this year is on expanding our membership roster. Although **Hale (N3NYC)** is chair of the Membership Committee every BARC member serves on the committee. We cannot neglect this issue if we want BARC to survive into the next decade. Therefore, I challenge every BARC member to bring one new amateur into the fold between now and the end of this fiscal year. If every member took on this task the future of the Baltimore Amateur Radio Club would be secure. If every licensed amateur regardless of club affiliation did the same as I am asking club members to do, the future of the U.S. Amateur Radio Service would be secure.

The club's legislative effort this year is once again focused at the state level. Working together with Senator Katherine Klausmeier (D-8) and Delegate Wade Kach, (R-5B) our team drafted the Radio Communications – Regulation of Amateur Radio Equipment – Limitations bill. The preamble of reads:

“FOR the purpose of requiring local zoning authorities to comply with certain federal regulations governing amateur radio service; prohibiting certain homeowners associations from restricting or prohibiting the design, placement, screening, height or use of certain amateur radio equipment; prohibiting certain homeowners associations from amending certain governing documents under certain circumstances; requiring certain homeowners associations to provide certain written notice to its lot owners within a certain amount of time; defining a certain term; and generally relating to the regulation of amateur radio equipment.”

The full text of the bill can be downloaded from the Maryland General Assembly web site at <http://mlis.state.md.us/2006rs/bills/sb/sb0075f.pdf>. A group of amateurs lead by **Tom (N3IJ)** and I went to Annapolis to testify in support of the bill before the House Environmental Matters Committee on February 9 and the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee on February 15. As of this writing, neither committee has voted to send the bill to General Assembly for

Hamboree Preparation

A few members are working very hard on the club's ONLY fund raiser for the year. While the elimination of the printing of this magazine resulted in savings of over 10% of our budget, we still have many expenses. Nearly half the budget is dedicated to scholarships. PLEASE come out to help the club. Especially needed are door guards on Saturday morning from 6 to 8 AM and Sunday morning from 7 to 8 AM. We also need ticket sellers for all shifts, especially for 8 AM to noon. This is not hard work, and it would be a lot more pleasant for those doing it if they only had to do it for an hour or two instead of four or more. To make this shift, we NEED your service. We understand that many of our members are no longer able to stand outside for such duty, but if you are able, we ask that you please do what you can to help us. For every hour we are lacking volunteers, we must pay outside organizations \$5. The simple math says that if you pay your \$15 membership, but do not help at the hamfest for a four hour shift, we actually pay out \$20 to make up for it. We'd rather have your service and company!

Also at the hamboree, we'd like to have contests, such as the QLF contest (Send code with your left foot), and perhaps some code copy contests. To do this, we need someone to come forward to run these contests. We have people with ideas and know-how, but they have other duties at the event. We need someone willing to take the ideas and run with it. Contact chairman *Robin, AA3SB* to volunteer. Robin has an answering machine at 410-247-0578.

NEW AT THE HAMBOREE, a club consignment table. If you have one or two things to sell, bring them and let the club rep sell them for you. The club will take 10%. You set the price and the minimum sales price you will accept. Our folks will do their best to get the most they can for your treasures. Helpers at this table are also needed, contact Robin as noted above. We tried this consignment table at the BARC- It's FREE!!! Minifest held on February 1st, and it was well received.

NEW THIS YEAR: The Home Arts building will be host to a new flea market area. Also, an area will be set aside for crafts and party sales. These include Tupperware, Pampered Chef and businesses of that nature. The spaces are 8 feet square. The cost is \$15 per day per space. Tables may be rented for an extra \$10 per day.



Consignment Table

Bring your special treasure (maximum two items) to the Hamboree Sell An Item Table in the Home Arts building. A staff member will attempt to sell your item while you enjoy the Hamboree. At the end of the day, return to the table and collect your proceeds of the sale. If the item did not sell you take it home. If it sold you receive 90% of the selling price while 10% goes to the organization for their work.

For More information

website: www.ghbc.org

call: 410-HAM-FEST (426-3378)

Skywarn Training

Skywarn Training will be hosted at the Maryland Science Center (www.MarylandScienceCenter.org) on Saturday, April 1st. The BASIC I class will be held from 10 AM to 1 PM and the BASIC II class is slated for 2 PM to 5 PM. Admission is free for the class, but no parking can be provided. Remember, the NWS would like every spotter to take these classes periodically. If you have not taken them for a few years, then it's time again. The NWS web site is <http://www.erh.noaa.gov/lwx/skywarn/classes.html>. To register for this class, send Katie Stover an email by using the address skywarn@mdsci.org.

You can also call Katie Stover at 410-545-5976. Please leave name, phone number, and class(es) they are registering for.



photo by Doug Wittich

a vote. The legislative Affairs team will keep you informed of the bills progress via the club's e-mail reflector.

Our next big event for 2006 which is Field Day is scheduled for June 24 and 25. Our primary chair for this year will be **Ed (K3CAV)**. Additional details will be published in the April Modulator.

That is all for now. I hope to see you at the March 16th program meeting or at this month's breakfast with the President at the Golden Corral on Rossville Blvd, off beltway exit 32B on Saturday, March 18th at 8:30AM. Until then...


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

Joe Kryzstoforski, AJ3X
President, BARC

Upcoming Hamfests

Date	Name	Contact	Phone	email
25-26 Mar 2006	Greater Baltimore Hamboree and Computerfest	Doug Wittich, N3VEJ	410-HAM-FEST	Info2006@GBHC.org
7 May 2006	The Great Hagerstown Hamfest	Karin Christensen, KB3GFV	301-432-2358	dilbert3@earthlink.net
28 May 2006	MFMA Memorial Day Hamfest	John Elgin, WA3MNN	301-641-5313 (6 PM to 10 PM)	wa3mnn@arrl.net
18 Jun 2006	Father's Day Hamfest	Carolyn Moroney, N3VOK	301-831-5060	k3erm@qsl.net
23 Jul 2006	BRATS Hamfest and Computer Fest	Les McClure, W3GXT	410-461-0086	lesmcclure@comcast.net
13 Aug 2006	7th Annual Carroll County Tailgate Fest	Bill Neeriemer, W3STG	301-829-8791	bneeriemer@verizon.net
29 Oct 2006	17th Annual Mason-Dixon Hamfest	Bill Neeriemer, W3STG	301-829-8791	w3stg@arrl.org

Bylaws Changes

Club members present at the February 15th meeting approved bylaw changes to membership categories. The most significant change was to eliminate the life membership, and renew in September, 2006 all life members who choose to, as Retired members. The Retired category membership fee is less than half the cost of a regular membership. A spirited discussion of membership fees followed. It was noted that BARC's membership fees are significantly less than most other organizations. A change was also made to the duration of free memberships for new members that have free memberships. We grant those that wish to have one, a free membership when they first become a licensed amateur radio operator. Previously, this grant was for one year. The first renewal was then computed for them to prorate the regular membership fee, based on the remaining term of their free year, as of the October 1st renewal date. The club voted to do away with the prorating. The free membership is now set so that it expires at the regular renewal period, so that the first renewal is now the same amount due as everyone else in that same membership category. It was noted that almost all new members do not renew their membership. The third change made to the bylaws was to alter the way the bylaws may be amended. The old requirement was that the change be mailed to every voting member. This has been changed to allow for electronic publication. 

Lost Friend

Hugh Turnbull, W3ABC reported: "My sixty three year journey with Betty came to closure last Saturday (Feb 4th) evening". This was indeed sad news. While not a licensed amateur herself, Miss Betty was very supportive of the service by the support she gave her husband over many years in his role in league leadership and in his very active role with the Foundation for Amateur Radio (FAR). The Washington Post notice said:

"Mary E. "Betty" Turnbull, 89, who served on a variety of community councils in Prince George's County, particularly ones promoting the interests of women, died of complications from a fall Feb. 4 at the health care facility at Riderwood Village retirement community in Silver Spring.

Mrs. Turnbull came to the Washington area in the early 1950s and lived in College Park from 1954 to 2004. As president of the Prince George's Federation of Women's Clubs, she chaired the task force that created the Women's Action Coalition of Prince George's County, formed to commemorate International Women's Year in 1975. She was the coalition's first chairwoman.

GPS Coordinates To The Maryland State Fairgrounds

North 39° 26.478 West 076° 37.520

Hotel Accomodations

The host hotel for the 2006 Greater Baltimore Hamboree & Computerfest is the Holiday Inn Select, Timonium, located at I-83 Exit 16, convenient to the fairgrounds. Enter the hotel by way of Greenspring Drive. Special rates are available for show attendees by request only. Reservations must be made by calling the Holiday Inn Select directly at 410-252-7373. Reservations must be made by March 1 to get the special discount.

FCC Amateur Radio Exams

Will be given only on Sunday, March 26, 2006. The exams will be held in the Vista Room on the fairgrounds. The exams are sponsored by the Laurel Amateur Radio Club. Advance registration is requested. Check-in is at 9:00 A.M. Exams start promptly at 9:30 A.M. Those who pre-register will be seated first. The exams will be administered by Laurel-VE's and the exams are free. Walk-ins and limited re-takes will be accepted. No new exams will start after 10:00 A.M. Please bring the original and a copy of any CSCE's and/or Amateur License you hold. Please bring two forms of ID regardless of your age. For additional information on testing only, contact: **John Creel, WB3GXW** at (301) 572- 5124, or e-mail him at wb3gxw@arrl.net.

RILEY HOLLINGSWORTH, K4ZDH TO SPEAK AT GBH&C

FCC Special Council For Amateur Radio Enforcement Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH will be the key note speaker on Saturday March 25 from 10:00 AM until Noon in the Vista Room. Check the GBH&C web page for up to date speaker and program information at www.gbhc.org.

Forums - Saturday Only In The Vista Room

10 AM: Riley Hollingsworth, FCC

1 PM: CERT and Amateur Radio, with Lt Jimmy Artis Baltimore County

Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management

2 PM: AMSAT

Card Checking

ARRL DXCC, VUCC and WAS card checking will be done from 9AM until 12 noon in the Exhibition Hall SATURDAY ONLY.

3.905 CCN Card Checking will be done from 9AM until 12 Noon SATURDAY ONLY by preregistration. To register please send an e-mail to n3wd1@yahoo.com for 3.905 CCN card checking.

March 25-26, 2006
Maryland State Fairgrounds
Timonium, Maryland
Exit 17 off I-83 North

Show Hours: Saturday 8am to 5pm Sunday 8am to 3pm

Show will be held in ANY weather!

Outdoor Tailgate and Basic Outdoor (North End Cow Palace) Opens 6am

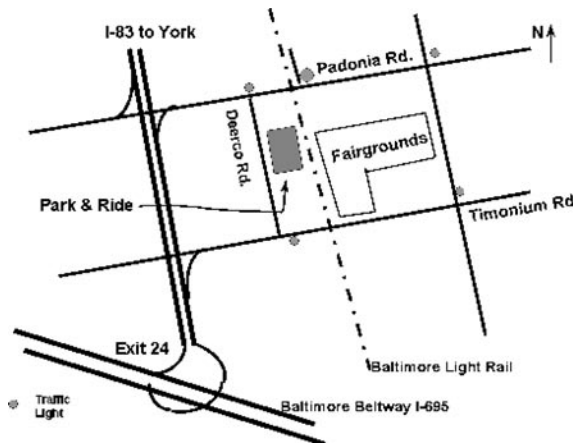
Admission is \$6 each day, full weekend admission is just \$10 (advanced sale only)

You're Invited

To the 35th Annual Greater Baltimore Hamboree & Computerfest, one of the largest events of its kind in the country. Three buildings, 5 acres comfortably under roof, hold over 1,100 display spaces. Dealers, manufacturers, marketers display a wide range of Amateur Radio gear, computers, electronics, and related items, both new and nearly new.

Talk-in Via Amateur Radio

BARC's club station, W3FT, will provide Talk-in on the following repeaters: 146.67 MHz (-); 224.24 MHz (-); and 449.625 MHz (-). A PL tone of 107.2 Hz is required on the 449.625 MHz repeater.



Public Entry And Directions To The Fairgrounds

There are three gates for entry to the fairgrounds: the York Road gate; the MTA Light Rail Station Park & Ride gate; and, after 8:00 A.M., the Timonium Road gate. All gates may be reached by way of I-83, Exit 17. I-83, the York/Harrisburg

Expressway, is Exit 24 off of I-695, the Baltimore Beltway. There are acres of parking at all gates. Please follow the directions of the parking attendants. Limited Handicapped parking is available. "HC" tags or permits are required! The fairgrounds are on the MTA's Central Light Rail Line. Trains run every 15 minutes. For information on the MTA, call 410-539-5000.

She was president of the Women's Club of College Park from 1964 to 1966 and in 2001 and 2002. She served on the Prince George's Commission for Women from 1977 to 1980.

In the 1960s, she was a member of the College Park citizens' advisory planning board, and she served on the board of directors of the Prince George's chapter of the American Red Cross from 1976 to 1995.

Mrs. Turnbull was born in Elizabeth, N.J., and attended business college there. She worked as a payroll officer for a chemical company and was executive assistant to the president of the Ballantine beer company in Newark, N.J. During World War II, she was an air-raid warden.

She was an accomplished violinist who was concertmistress of a regional orchestra in Elizabeth, and she performed in other ensembles.

Survivors include her husband of 63 years, Hugh Turnbull of Silver Spring; two children, Mark Turnbull of Philadelphia and Karen Shangraw of Crofton; and two grandsons.

This reporter's own memories of Mrs. Turnbull are of the happiness she and Hugh shared together as they attended convention banquets. While I didn't have frequent opportunities to chat with her, the time doing so, mostly at division conventions was memorable by her kindness to everyone around her. Our deepest condolences are extended to Mr. Turnbull and the family.

Word Game

What do these words have in common?

Jake Lake Make Name Mantle Jam queue

Second try, what do these words have in common?

AFTER SAFE READ RAT CARD CART CRAFT RAFT

Answer on page 15

Upcoming Public Service & Events

Nominating Committee to be named in April
 May 19-21: Dayton Hamvention
 (www.hamvention.com)
 April 19: Laurel VEC Program

March 2006

Upcoming Contests

Jun 10-12 - ⚡ June VHF QSO Party
 Jun 24-25 - ⚡ Field Day
 Jul 8-9 - ⚡ IARU HF World Championships

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Business Meeting: 7:30 p.m.	2	3	4 VE Testing— Registration: 1 p.m. Testing begins: 2 p.m. ⚡ Int DX Contest (Phone) 0000 Sat- 2400 Sun UTC
5	6	7	8 Hamboree Committee 7:30 p.m.	9	10	11
12	13 Deadline— April Issue of <i>The Modulator</i>	14	15 Handi-Hams: 7:30 p.m.	16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18
19 <i>Breakfast with the BARC President</i> 8:30 AM - Golden Corral (see page 10 for details)	20	21	22 Hamboree Committee 7:30 p.m.	23	24	25 THE GREATER BALTIMORE HAMBOREE AND COMPUTERFEST 
26 THE GREATER BALTIMORE HAMBOREE AND COMPUTERFEST 	27 Deadline— Feature Articles for May Issue of <i>The Modulator</i>	28	29	30	31	Phases of the Moon 03/06 First Quarter 03/14 Full Moon 03/22 Last Quarter 03/29 New Moon