

# Forsyth Amateur Radio Club, Inc.



# Newsletter



Volume 2002, Issue 4

Founded December 30, 1930

April, 2002

## W4NC to help State Department with new Bosnian-Macedonian Initiative

The ARRL has recommended W4NC as the initial test station to assist the State Department with the operation code-named Vowel Storm. W4NC was recommended because of the Club's east-coast location, excellent station and the Club's record of assisting with major disasters such as the 1987 Mexican Earthquake and Florida's Hurricane Andrew.

Because the war on terrorism has captured most of the media attention, very few have noticed that President Bush has directed the State Department to focus some attention on what some perceive, at least in part, is a main, root cause of the tensions in the region of the former Yugoslavia. "For nearly ten years, we have stood by while names like Ygijvslhv, Tzlynhr, and Glrm have been horribly butchered by millions around the world," Bush said. "Today the

*Continued top of Pg. 2*



## Special Auction!

### March meeting program highlights.

March was a most unusual meeting. FARC had a high-class problem. We had been donated a substantial amount of equipment, much more than we could safely store or use in it's current form. Two truck loads came from the estate of Joseph Merritt, K9LOS, several items came from the estate of Hat Hatfield, and two FARC members, Norm Beyerly, N4ANE and another club member donated a number of nice items. This was all nice stuff ranging from late-model, high-dollar HF rigs to general shack goodies. From those present at the Club's February Business meeting the decision was made to pool all FARC equipment, decide what to keep and what to sell, what we'd like to have and could buy with the proceeds. The first pass was to offer the items to Club members at very reasonable minimum-bid prices. Then on to eBay or hamfests. To date the Club has raised nearly \$4,000, not to mention the nice ~\$5K Omni VI Plus with Titan amplifier in the shack. The money will go two main ways: 1)\$2,000+ will go to repeaters in the following order, a) 440 repeater, b) 145.47, c) 145.64. Most of the remainder will go to the HF shack for a new Kenwood 2000 (it's here!, a computer controller DC-light HF, VHF and satellite-compatible rig). This will provide two main permanently-installed rigs in the HF shack with Heil Gold-line mics, plus 2 rigs (TS-440 and a TS-930) in the closet for emergencies and Field Day, etc. We will also have the long-awaited 440 repeater on the air and enhancements to the other repeaters. There's more detail on page 3, **Club Shack Update.** As a reminder, the Club Shack is open to Club members through-out the normal business day and many times after (if the Red Cross has something going on in the building). Also occasionally the shack can be made available for special events. We only ask that 1) you get a quick check-out from someone, generally a club officer and 2) stay within your license limits, 3) log your contacts, 4) lock it up at the end.

## Club Meeting Monday, April 8, 2002

We will meet, as usual, on the 2nd Monday of the month at 610 Coliseum Drive in the Red Cross Building. This meeting starts at 7:30 PM sharp in Room 09, but come early, say, 7:00-ish, to 'hob-nob' with your fellow hams. Program to-be-announced.

## Amateur Radio Exams

Amateur Radio exams will be given at the American Red Cross, 690 Coliseum Drive, Winston-Salem, NC (Beside WXII-TV), first Saturday of May at 9:00 A.M. by the W4VEC VEC Group. (No exam in April!) For more information see the W4VEC VEC website at: [www.w4vec.com](http://www.w4vec.com) or contact Rick Batte', N4MBI at [n4mbi@ols.net](mailto:n4mbi@ols.net) or 336-924-1881. Be sure to bring two forms of ID, one being a photo ID, your SSN, original license, photo copy of your present amateur license, and any CSCE's. Also you need to bring your FRN which is required by the FCC. This can be obtained from the CORES database, or you can refer to the letter that you received or will receive from the FCC.

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*Bosnia, continued from Page 1*

United States must stand up and say 'Enough!' It's time the people of Bosnia had some vowels in their incomprehensible words. The U.S. is proud to lead the crusade in this noble endeavor."

Before a recent joint session of Congress President Bush announced U.S. plans to deploy more than 75,000 vowels. The deployment, the largest of its kind in U.S. history, will provide the region with the critically needed letters A, E, I, O and U, and is hoped to render Bosnian names more pronounceable. President Bush, after seeing a demonstration of Amateur Radio in Florida, said that Amateur Radio will be an ideal method to assist.

To assist in this effort W4NC will begin transmitting the letters A, E, I, O and U (and sometimes Y) 24 hours a day beginning 30 days from the first of April. Operators will be needed for both CW and SSB, pausing only for FCC required ID's. The cities of Sjlbdnqv and Grznc will be the first target cities. Hams in those cities will be working to copy the W4NC vowel transmissions.

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**Forsyth Amateur Radio Club, Inc** is a non-profit (IRS 501(c)3) North Carolina corporation for the promotion of Amateur Radio, and for the education and training of hams and the general public primarily in Forsyth County, North Carolina.

FARC was originally incorporated as the Winston-Salem Radio Club on December 31, 1930 and has been in operation ever since. We currently maintain a state-of-the-art ham station in the basement of the Red Cross, 610 Coliseum Dr., Winston-Salem, NC and also maintain two 2-meter repeaters, 146.64 (100 Hz tone) and 145.47 (100 Hz tone).

FARC has a general membership meeting with a program on the 2nd Monday of every month at the Red Cross building, 610 Coliseum Drive in Winston-Salem. The club conducts its main business meeting (sometimes inaccurately and wrongly called the Board Meeting) on the 3rd Monday generally at the same location. This is where most of the club's business is conducted and all attending members have a vote. All clubs members are strongly encouraged to attend the business meeting. For more information about FARC mail us at FARC, Inc., PO Box 11361, Winston-Salem, NC, 27116; call 336-723-7388; or visit our web site at [www.w4nc.org](http://www.w4nc.org). Club email is to [w4nc@triad.rr.com](mailto:w4nc@triad.rr.com).

Officers for 2002 are:

President: John Kippe, N0KTY,  
336-969-4461,  
[fancie@alltel.net](mailto:fancie@alltel.net);

Vice-President: Tim King, KG4MQD

Secretary: Dan O'Leary, KG4ECI,  
336-922-6579  
[kg4eci@webtv.net](mailto:kg4eci@webtv.net)

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To join our list server send a blank email to  
[w4nc-subscribe@yahoo.com](mailto:w4nc-subscribe@yahoo.com).

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We trade newsletters with other clubs, and many local clubs are on our mailing list. If your club has a newsletter and would like to trade please send us a copy.

Citizens of Grznc and Sjlbdnqv eagerly await the arrival of vowels. "My God, I do not think we can last another day, Trszg Grzdnjkn, said. I have six children and none of them has a name that is understandable to me or anyone else. Mr. Bush, please send my poor, wretched family just one E. Please!"

Said Sjlbdnqv resident Hnr Hdtmnn, 4VHK: "With just a few key letters, I could be Henry Hedtmann. That is my dream. Someday, if I were rich I would make my name Henry Heidtmann, III, but today that would be decadent and wasteful of precious vowels."

If W4NC's transmissions are successful, Bush said that the US would go ahead with full-scale vowel deployment. Other nations are expected to pitch in as well, including 10,000 British A's and 6,500 Canadian U's. Japan, rich in A's and O's was asked to participate in the relief effort, but declined.

Congressional Republicans were highly supportive of the President's proposal, except Jessie Helms who threatened a filibuster and said "American vowels should stay in America. America vowels are a precious natural resource and should be reserved for Americans." A spokesman for the Democrats, who declined to be identified, when asked to comment said "This is the dumbest thing I've ever heard."

There is precedent for such an operation. In 1984 the U.S. shipped 92,000 consonants to Ethiopia, providing cities like Ouauoua, Eaouuae and Aao with vital, life-saving supplies of L's, S's and T's. The consonant-relief effort failed, however, when vast quantities of the letters were intercepted and hoarded by gun-toting warlords.

*73, Don, WB4KQN*

*The respected news source "The Onion" contributed to this report.*

## World Amateur Radio Day

World Amateur Radio Day this year will provide an opportunity to reflect on radio amateurs as an important source of innovation in communication technology. Observed each year on April 18, World Amateur Radio Day commemorates the founding of the International Amateur Radio Union in Paris on that date in 1925. The IARU is the worldwide federation of national Amateur Radio organizations representing amateurs in 153 countries.

*Continued next page*



## PIANO TUNING

Paul V. Jordan  
KG4LDB

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Winston-Salem, NC 27104  
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[pj735@bellsouth.net](mailto:pj735@bellsouth.net)

*World Amateur Radio Day, continued from previous page*

A century has passed since Marconi spanned the Atlantic and excited the imaginations of the first generation of amateur wireless experimenters. Amateurs were the first to discover and to exploit the remarkable properties of the ionosphere, the IARU noted.

Amateurs also were the first to make widespread use of single-sideband voice communication to conserve power and precious radio spectrum. Amateurs applied microprocessors to data communication, popularizing packet radio and developing protocols that are now in widespread use in public safety and other services.

As we enter radio's second century, amateurs continue to lead the way in numerous areas. Radio amateurs are the leading developers of new digital techniques for high-frequency (HF) data and text communication, such as PacTOR. Disaster relief agencies have adopted it for use from remote locations where no telecommunications infrastructure is available.

PSK31, another amateur innovation, is a user-friendly mode that provides live keyboard-to-keyboard communication at low power levels. PSK31 has become the most popular amateur digital mode in less than two years. Other amateur developers, building on the success of PSK31, are using sound cards to explore a wide range of other digital modes tailored for the challenging HF environment.

Amateurs also are contributing in the arena of software defined radios (SDRs). An outstanding example of a DSP radio designed for experimental use is the DSP-10, a transceiver for the 144-MHz amateur band designed by Bob Larkin, W7PUA, of Corvallis, Oregon. Working with Larkin, a team of amateur software developers is refining a family of programs tailored to explore a wide range of VHF, UHF, and microwave propagation media, including moonbounce and extended-range tropospheric scatter.

The IARU cites these as but a few examples of what is happening in Amateur Service of the 21st century.

The IARU is a sector member of the International Telecommunication Union and is the recognized representative of the Amateur and Amateur-Satellite Services at the ITU.--IARU

## Club Shack Update

*By Henry Heidtmann, N4VHK*

If you missed the last club meeting, you missed quite an event. The club managed to liquidate over \$1800 worth of estate and FARC equipment to make room for some well-deserved club upgrades. Everyone had a great time seeing all the neat gear, and the little that remains will be sold at our Hamfest in June. Several of the larger pieces went on E-Bay, and fetched a good sum- the Collins KWM-380 went for \$2325, the Nye-Viking Tuner went for \$410, and the Collins station console went for \$195. (The old museum piece, the CW Instructograph, quietly went for \$13.50 and cost \$16 to ship it-oh well.)

Thanks to all the buyers who helped make the estate sale a success. The board authorized the purchase of the Kenwood TS-2000, and the rig has arrived! It will be installed in the shack soon. The TenTec Omni 6 plus install is done, which includes the LX-1 boom and the Heil Gold line microphone. I know this system will work good, and I can assure you that it looks GREAT. We also picked up another Gold line/boom combination for the TS-2000. Raymond KG4NTC has taken on the task of building a nice computer for the 2000, as well as upgrading and networking our other 3 machines.

Now onto the antennas. The Mosley was picked up by a ham in Georgia, and I received a note from him recently thanking us for the nice packing job and good deal on the antenna. He'll have it up in a couple of weeks. The Force 12 antenna which will replace the Mosley is 1/3 of the way built and it will take a

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**JAMES CRISALL**  
**KF4UGR**



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couple more weeks before its ready to hoist up the tower. The lower Telrex tribander was dropped, and after finding a waterlogged balun in it, has had a new balun installed. That antenna has given us 20 years of service, (along with the 15 years it gave Sam Mooney) and it looks like we'll be able to use it for at least another 5 or so. A Cushcraft 10/15/20 meter vertical will be installed up on the roof as well (its there now on a temporary mount and working beautifully.) An Alpha Delta 1/2 sloper will replace the old sloper wires for 80 and 160 ( as well as give us a vertically polarized antenna on 40.) Tom N4IOZ has ordered replacement hardware for our AR2 and AR6 verticals, and they will be re-installed. John N0KTY spent a couple hours re-fastening the myriad of coax runs to the tower. Dale WB9SZL picked up some pl-259's at Charlotte and we'll replace some of the connectors on the roof. We'll need one more solid work day this Spring to complete all the maintenance, antenna lifts and upgrades, but I project that by May 1 we will have everything done. This "musical chairs" approach with the club gear will enable us to have all our Field Day equipment in boxes ready to go with out ripping out all the shack gear- not to mention having radios ready to go for emergency purposes at a moment's notice. Other funds have been directed to Technical Chairman Dale Mierisch to complete what I understand will be a major upgrade to our 2 repeaters and the addition of a 440 repeater. If there was any question what you get for your dues money, they should be answered by now. Not many, if any, clubs make this much of a commitment to its club members- one of the nicest club shacks in the Southeast, and 3 repeaters to boot! Thanks to all who have helped with this worthwhile project.

## FCC announcement

Date: April 1, 2002



For those of you who don't get the automatic FCC bulletin-forwarding: the FCC has announced that as soon as the next question pools are available amateur extra class licensees with 1x2 and 1x3 calls will be randomly selected and given 60 days to appear before an FCC examiner for a 20 question "mini-test" ... passing grade is 75%. (This is to "validate" the new pool, and "calibrate" the current crop of Amateur Extra licensees.) Those who fail will be given another 60 days to re-examine with a certified VE, or risk losing their current privileges.

Also since computer-based modes are replacing CW, the 5 WPM code test will be abandoned and replaced with a keyboarding exam. Error-free copying of 35 WPM is expected. This will be validated by randomly-selected Technician and Technician-Plus licensees who must appear before an FCC examiner. Those who fail will be given 60 to re-examine with a VE or risk losing their current privileges.

## FARC Meeting Minutes

### Monthly Membership Meeting:

The monthly club meeting of the FARC was held at the Red Cross building at 7:00 pm on Monday, March 11, 2002.

**Program:** This was a super-special meeting to offer to FARC members an opportunity to purchase some of the gear which was recently donated to the Club. The Technical Committee has been going through a number of recent generous donations and also the equipment the club has in use and making decisions about what to keep and what to change. Since this was a large group and a long meeting no other business was conducted.

### Business Meeting:

The monthly board meeting of the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club was held on Monday March 18, 2002 at the Red Cross building. The meeting was called to order at 7:39 PM by Club President John Kippe N0KTY.

### NEW BUSINESS:

**Treasury report:** The treasury remains in good standing.

**Hamfest committee report:** Regretfully, Paul Jordan, KD4LGB has needed to resign as chairman and we regretfully accepted his resignation. Robert, KG4NEP has accepted the reins as chairman. Plans for another successful Hamfest continue; the grounds have been rented and ARRL approval has been granted, chairman Robert KG4NEP reports.

**Technical committee report:** Chairman Dale WB9SZL reports that both machines are in working order. Upgrades to both machines, as well as regular maintenance, are ongoing. The club's next priority is to get a 440 machine "on the air".

A motion was made, seconded and accepted by acclamation by all present for an FARC uniform to be worn by members at all club and ham radio functions. The uniform was inspired by the berets worn by the USA Olympic athletes as they paraded into the opening ceremony in Utah. As approved the uniform will consist of green knee socks, brown golf trousers secured by garters at the calf, a bright yellow shirt with "Forsyth Amateur Radio Club, W4NC" in large black block letters on the back. On the front over the left front pocket will be the members own name and call. And to top it all off will be a replica of the Olympic beret with the letters FARC instead of USA. The member will provide his own black patent-leather shoes. The only dissent was by Woody Kenny who prefers a WWII-style pilots' head-cap with integral microphone and ear piece instead of the beret. Members will receive an assessment shortly for the cost of the uniform. Failure to wear the uniform at

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## Another 'Alien' Idea:

When NASA first started sending up astronauts, they quickly discovered that ballpoint pens would not work in zero gravity. To combat this problem, NASA scientists spent a decade and \$12 billion developing a pen that writes in zero gravity, upside down, underwater, on almost any surface including glass and at temperatures ranging from below freezing to over 300 C. The Russians used a pencil.

public functions after May 31 will result in a fine assessed against the member. Those who would like to help the club defer the cost for less-fortunate Club members send a \$25 cash donation to FARC Uniform, 1245 E. Sprague St., WS 27107.

To facilitate maintaining our equipment, Don WB4KQN motioned that the club allocate \$750.00 to purchase equipment, should the opportunity arise, called a communications monitor to be used for that purpose. The motion was seconded by Tim KG4MQD and approved.

The board meeting was adjourned at 9:27 on motion by WB9SZL.

*Submitted for approval,  
Dan O'Leary KG4ECI, Secretary  
2001, 2002*



**ARES**

*ARES 19MAR02*

The 2002 Public Service season has begun with two requests for ham radio assistance.

On Saturday, April 13, the Forsyth County MS Walk will be held on the Wake Forest University campus and the adjacent Reynolda House grounds. Walker registration begins at 0900, and the event should be finished before noon. Five operators (and maybe a Net Control operator at a base station) will do the job. Please contact Bryce Lambeth, KE4ZFN, to volunteer.

On Sunday, May 11, our help is needed for the Second Annual Celtic Music Festival at Historic Bethabara Park. The event runs from 1000 until 1700. All duty stations will be on the Bethabara grounds (possible exception: an off-site parking area). Events include Celtic music and dance, athletic events like caber-toss, games for children, etc. The possible downside is that May 11 is Mother's Day. The good news is that the Festival is good family entertainment; so bring Mom and the whole gang. Please contact Jim Mansfield, WA4NOT, to volunteer.

*Jim Mansfield,  
Acting EC, Forsyth County ARES*

**Would you like to become a member of FARC? It's easy! Dues are \$24/year (\$12/year for over 65 & students) prorated to end in December, i.e. in April dues would be \$16 (\$8 for over 65 and students). Feel free to drop into any meeting, we'd love to have you. Second Monday of every month at the Red Cross, 610 Coliseum Dr. Or email [w4nc@triad.rr.com](mailto:w4nc@triad.rr.com) for more details.**



The new beret for the FARC Club uniform. This is a picture of the USA beret that was worn by the USA Olympic athletes. The FARC beret will say FARC on the front. Woody Kinney preferred the cap shown below.



**ORIGINAL BOX COMPANY**

Have you lost the original box that came with your radio?

When the time comes to sell your radio it is worth far more if you can provide an Original Box. Now as a service to FARC club members you can receive an Original Box for your HF rig for the one time payment of only \$25. Boxes are also available for 2-meter rigs, keyers and the like generally for a reduced price. Request a list.

Accept no substitutes! Always demand an **Original Box**™

Send \$25 CASH to  
Original Box Company, 410 E. Sprague St, Winston-Salem, NC, 27127.

## Hamfest Calender

Courtesy of ARRL  
& SERA Repeater Journal



- 14 Apr 2002** NC State Convention Raleigh, NC, Raleigh ARS  
*This is a 'super-biggie' and it, along with Shelby over Labor Day, are both events not to miss!*  
<http://www.rars.org/hamfest> Email: [ac4zo@arrl.net](mailto:ac4zo@arrl.net)
- 20 Apr 2002** Catawba Valley Hamfest Committee Morganton, NC  
<http://cvhamfest.linuxham> Email: [kc4qpr@vistatech.net](mailto:kc4qpr@vistatech.net)
- 20 Apr 2002** Chesapeake AR Service Chesapeake, VA  
<http://www.qsl.net/cars> E mail: [ruthis23505@yahoo.com](mailto:ruthis23505@yahoo.com)
- 27 Apr 2002** Salkehatchie ARS Windsor, SC  
<http://www.qsl.net/kf4cvo> Email: [af4qz@arrl.net](mailto:af4qz@arrl.net)
- 4 May 2002** Blue Ridge ARS Spartanburg, SC  
<http://www.brars.org> Email: [w4rgw@arrl.net](mailto:w4rgw@arrl.net)
- 2 Jun 2002** Ole Virginia Hams ARC Manassas, VA  
<http://www.qsl.net/olevahams> Email: [n4yic@arrl.net](mailto:n4yic@arrl.net)
- 8 Jun 2002** Forsyth ARC Winston-Salem, NC  
[Http://www.w4nc.org](http://www.w4nc.org) Email: [pj735@bellsouth.net](mailto:pj735@bellsouth.net)

## FCC Exam Report



Please note there will not be an April session!

### W4VEC VEC Testing Schedule for 2002- Winston-Salem, NC

DATE/MONTH	LOCATION
02 March 2002	Red Cross
April 2002	<b>No Testing</b>
04 May 2002	Red Cross
June 2002	Winston-Salem Hamfest ONLY
July 2002	<b>No Testing</b>
03 August 2002	Red Cross
September 2002	<b>No Testing</b>
05 October 2002	Red Cross
November 2002	<b>No Testing</b>
07 December 2002	Red Cross
January 2003	<b>No Testing</b>
February 2003	Test Session at Elkin Hamfest ONLY.

73, Rick, N4MBI

## Postage Rates Going Up

It had to happen. After the expensive problems caused by the anthrax, requiring new and expensive postal equipment, plus many organizations going to email more, postage rates are going up. First class will go to 37 cents from the current 34 cents. Postcards will be 23 cents compared to current 21 cents. The newsletter budget has been for 200 subscribers per month (that's going to go up soon - our membership has been growing). Two hundred times 34 cents times 12 months equals \$816.00 per year. The new rate would raise that to \$888.00. Last month is the first month that a significant number of people moved to email. Actual number of

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mailed pieces last month was about 120. Those 80 who received their newsletter by email not only received a high resolution, full color publication, they will save the club \$326.40 at the old rate (or \$355.20 at the new rate) every year. And they will save the editor's sanity (an already very small item) by fewer envelopes to stuff.

In addition to the 37-cent rate for the first ounce of first-class mail, other increases requested by the post office include:

- Increase the postcard rate 2 cents to 23 cents.
- A 1-pound priority mail item would rise 35 cents to \$3.85.
- Increases in parcel post, with a 5-pound item costing \$4.19 to \$7.25 now, depending on distance, would rise to \$5.03 to \$9.43.
- A half-pound Express Mail item would jump \$1.20 to \$13.65.
- Certified mail would increase 20 cents to \$2.30.
- Insurance charges would go up for most mail, depending on amount of insurance, but would be reduced for Express Mail.
- The charge for a return receipt would go up 25 cents to \$1.75.

## For Sale (& a moving announcement!)

Scott, WB4YZA, is not much on making club meetings, but you've seen him keeping a chair warm under the big silver tarp at Shelby hamfest. Scott has a new job and will be moving to Delaware soon. Scott lives in Cooleemee on 801 South. Scott has been the one who usually goes down to Shelby on Wednesday and holds the space until the rest of us get there. The following is the last of several emails I've exchanged with Scott:

Howdy,

The company [I'll be working for is] Conectiv Power (includes power companies in MD, VA, DE, PA & NJ). Huge 800 MHz / microwave / fiber comm system. I will be working out of Newark, DE office. Shelby? vacation doesn't start until mid-September. I plan to go even if only on Sunday. Haven't missed one since 1977.

Here's what I've got [for sale] so far,

- (1) 38 ft of a 40 ft Rohn HBDXX freestanding tower (needs paint) - \$50
- (2) 10 ft fiberglass dish with mount and polar rotor - free
- (3) Cushcraft AP-8 80-10m trap vertical - \$50
- (4) Various 144/220/432/1296 yagis - cheap
- (5) Mac IICI (68020) w/o monitor - \$30
- (6) 14.5 ft Old Towne 146 canoe - \$450
- (7) 15 ft Necky Alsek touring (sea) kayak - \$450

Everything negotiable except canoe & kayak. All items cash only & must be picked up by 10 April.

Scott Hedspeth  
(336) 284-4021  
[hedspeth@mindspring.com](mailto:hedspeth@mindspring.com)

## Editor's Corner

OK, first I like to give credit (blame) where credit (blame) is due. The idea from the lead article came from an article that appeared about 1995 in 'The Onion', a humor (well, they think so anyway) publication. 'The Onion' is available in print and on the web. I plag. . ., err. . re-worte it to apply to today, ham radio and FARC. Hopefully I 'sucked you in' with the first page before reaching the 'Doh!' on page 2. The Original Box Company was an idea from the 1950's in QST. Tom Gallagher reminded me of it months ago. (Tom I expect a kick-back.) All this is a way of saying that I've never had an original and worth-while idea in my life.

The FARC uniform is my fault. And the 'How HF Radios Work' article. While it could be argued there is some original material, there certainly isn't anything worth-while. And Henry, I pick on you a lot, but when I went looking for an assailable club-member with lots of vowels in their name, you were near the top.

My apology in advance: I hope no one takes umbrage at the (unintended) ethnic nature of the lead article. There really wasn't anything ethnically demeaning intended especially toward Slavic languages and those who speak them. And the tragic events there tell the story of where all intolerance leads. Were we all identical the world would be a far more drab and boring place. Which is to say that the broad tapestry of humanity is to be treasured, not demeaned. While I'm not at all fluent with the Slavic pronunciations involved, which do indeed include vowels, I'm aware that the rules, once understood, are very neat, clear and expose English for the detestably-poor guide to pronunciation that it is, i.e. read, read, red or tears and tears. Certainly beyond a case of "the pot calling the kettle black"; the pot is much blacker. With a little effort I could have taken a similar approach to Russian (the Cyrillic alphabet), Arabic (another phonetic alphabet) or any of a number of Asian (both representational and phonetic alphabets) languages. And they could to English. The main point is that different languages and alphabets are alien to those unfamiliar with them. And to anyone who wants to pick nits, I know Russian is a Slavic language, and if you know that much maybe we should compare philology notes over beers where I can expose myself for the pompous, dilettante *abecedarian* (look it up, more 2nd meaning, rather than the 1st) I am. And, perhaps I shouldn't use 'beers' and 'expose myself' in the same sentence.

Repeating my email mantra: I'm trying to get as many people to move to the email version as possible, where you get full color. The writing of the Newsletter isn't bad. The printing isn't even too bad. The collating and stapling aren't too bad. The folding, especially when the machine is possessed by demons like last month, is ghastly and abominable. And stuffing, sealing and stamping the envelopes is not a pretty sight either. **Eber habd uh pabber kut un yur thung?**

Lastly, WB4KQN will be retiring as newsletter editor this month. Next month newsletter editor duties will be assumed by Don, WS4NC. He promises to keep the newsletter much as it is now.

I should be caught up in updating the FARC database, at least for FARC members. I have a very large stack of address changes for non-members. If your information isn't up-to-date let me know, but gently, and don't shoot. The email reflector on Yahoo didn't work right - and is more trouble than it's worth. The Newsletter will come as direct emails from w4nc@triad.rr.com.

For information to make it into the Newsletter, I need it a few days before the end of the month. Sometimes I can squeeze it in on the last day, *depending on when the 2nd Monday falls.*

Email me at edwardd@rjrt.com with any submissions. Just plain text is all that's required, most formatting will be redone to match the Newsletter's form anyway. Pictures can be most any form, but jpg's are probably best. Pictures need to be of the highest resolution possible.

73, Don, WB4KQN

## Understanding Modern HF Rigs

*In easy, understandable terms!*

□  
□

And that's all there is to it!

### PHOTO RESTORATION

Do you have precious photographs that are faded, damaged or deteriorating? Those photos can be copied, scratches and destroyed areas repaired. Black & white prints can be colorized. Copies printed on canvas or photo paper. The original photos are not harmed.

Don Edwards 336-413-3838