



The Blue Ridge *Echo...Echo...Echo*

Official Transmitter of the Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club - W4YK



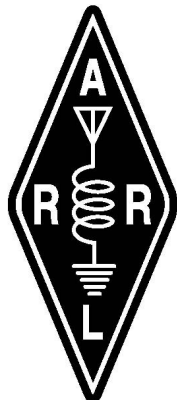
Volume 18, Number 9 September, 2005

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At the next meeting

- Dave Anderson presents a program on DXpeditions
- There will be the usual 50/50 drawing.
- Refreshments courtesy of Doug, W9SPC



Hurricane Katrina Volunteer Signup Database Now Open

NEWINGTON, CT, Aug 31, 2005--The Hurricane Katrina Disaster Communications Volunteer Registration & Message Traffic Database <<http://katrina.ab2m.net/>> now is open. Site Administrator Joe Tomasone, AB2M, set up the database, and South Texas ARRL Section Emergency Coordinator Jerry Reimer, KK5CA <<mailto:jerryreimer@charter.net>>, is handling volunteer coordination. This site is intended for Amateur Radio volunteers to sign up for communication support duty on behalf of Hurricane Katrina relief and recovery efforts in Louisiana and Mississippi.

"Standard ARES mutual assistance rules are in effect," Reimer says in a statement for those considering signing up.

"ARES volunteers intending to travel should not leave without specific instructions."

Reimer is encouraging trained volunteers "qualified and willing to travel into the area" to register. Initial volunteers chosen for duty will be drawn from those available within Louisiana and Mississippi, followed by volunteers from adjacent sections.

He notes that hotel or motel accommodations are unlikely to be available for volunteers traveling into the storm-stricken states and "any accommodations that are available are likely to be primitive and makeshift." Water suitable for drinking or bathing also is expected to be scarce.

"Unless you are presently mentally and physically prepared for complete self-sufficiency for at least several days, please do not immediately register," Reimer advises. "Not everyone needs to be in the first wave of volunteers; the recovery effort will last weeks and perhaps months, requiring an extended volunteer pool."

The ARRL South Texas, Louisiana and Mississippi sections' mutual assistance agreement <<http://www.laarrrl.org/emergops.htm>> is in effect for the Hurricane Katrina response.

COMMENT DEADLINES FOR NO-CODE PROPOSAL

From the ARRL: Comment deadlines set in FCC "Morse code" proceeding

The deadline to submit comments on the FCC Notice of Proposed Rule Making and Order

(NPRM&O) in WT classes. The FCC turned Docket 05-235, released away several other petition July 19, is October 31. requests, however, including Reply comments are due proposals to create a new November 14. The entry-level license class.

NPRM&O proposes to do away with the 5 Comment deadlines are established by the NPRM&O's WPM Morse code requirement for all license publication in the Federal Register, which occurred Au-

PREZ SEZ, GEORGE KORPER, K3GK, PRESIDENT

The Prez Sez

“Dumbing us down,” has become a current expression of dismay in America. Now I see that this approach to learning has befallen our hobby. The FCC is



now about to eliminate any Morse code re-

quirement for HF privileges. I am totally against this proposal. We learn Morse code so that we can provide a backup to our emergency services in case of widespread power outage or natural disaster. Just this week the phone system went down in Henderson County. Stores had to close their doors. The truth is we are totally

reliant on complicated systems for the majority of our communication. ‘What if ?’ the power went down all across the US—curtains for our way of life. The ham bands would be crowded with phone stations, but the reliable NTS system would still be functioning with CW as its backbone. The FCC

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If you have something to add to **YOUR** newsletter, send it to: Dick Smith, K4KQJ, c/o P.O. Box 831, Horse Shoe, NC 28742 Call me at: (828) 687-9531 E-mail me at: <k4kqj@arrl.

Financial Statement for August 2005 - Lil Clark

Balance as of 7/31/05 - \$689.74

Less: Expenses 23.31

Balance: - \$666.43

We had no deposits this month.

Don't Forget:

TESTING SESSION

November 13, 2005

MOUNTAIN HOME FIRE DEPARTMENT

US25 NORTH IN MOUNTAIN HOME.

9:00 AM

Call Carol Frost, K4YYR, for more information.

GEAR AND GOODIES

Clipperton - L Amplifier including manual. Wired for 220 volts but can be rewired for 110. \$225

Yaesu FT209R HT with case, manual, extra antenna, charger, external speaker. \$100.

Two Cushcraft R-5 vertical antennas 20 - 10 meters, manual. \$125 each.

Two 30' telescoping poles. \$15 each.

Regulated 12 volt power supply. \$25.

Two meter antenna tuner. \$25.

SWR meter. \$15

Two meter vertical antenna. \$15

Gene Robbins: garnc@bellsouth.net, or by telephone at 828-698-3707.

Club Radio For Sale

The club is selling its TEN-TEC HF transceiver. It is a TRITON IV Digital, Model 544. It comes complete with 262G Power Supply, Remote VFO, and Ammeter. The rig is in the radio shack; hook it up and give it a test drive.

Price is \$275.

Contact George Korper.

FOR SALE:

ICOM 144 MHZ ALL MODE 100 WATT TRANSCEIVER. MODEL 271H. EXCELLENT CONDITION. ORIGINAL OWNER. \$500. W5KX, 828 877 3887

CLUB INFORMATION

Dues: Annual dues shall be set by the membership, and can be changed by a majority vote of a quorum. The dues will cover the period from January through December. Dues for additional related members in the same household as a Full or Associate member shall be one-half the ap-

plicable rate. Dues for full-time students of an accredited school will be one-half the regular rate as long as the student status is maintained. New members joining between July and December will pay one-half the applicable rate for membership through the end of the year. This years'

dues are \$20.00 per person; \$7.50 per additional family member. **Please send your renewals to: Lil Clark, 301 Autumn Glen Ct., Brevard, NC 28712**

Meetings: We meet at the Stony Mountain Activity Center at 7:30 pm on the first Tuesday of each month.

MEETING MINUTES

MINUTES OF MEETING AUGUST 2ND, 2005

The August meeting came promptly to order at 7:30 p.m. Though it was hot and humid outside, the air conditioning inside the building made the conditions for the meeting to be very nice. Most everyone seemed to be in a jovial mood. George Korper, K3GK, was the presiding officer. We began our meeting, as is our practice, to our national standard. There were 22 members in attendance, plus one visitor. Our visitor was Bayard Coolidge, NIHO.

Welcome Bayard, we hope to see you again!

Announcements included the pointing out of some used equipment for sale that a couple of the members had carried in before the meeting began. Walt Wernsing, KO4JN, is also handling a sale of equipment for a ham who cannot use his equipment anymore. He has a list of equipment that any interest party may contact him about. If you would like to know what is available, please see or call Walt.

A sign up sheet was passed to gather names of those wishing to help in the annual Apple Festival Parade. This event takes place in Hendersonville on Labor Day, September 5th of this year. Those of you who have helped in the past are familiar with this exercise. We will meet at the Girl Scout building on North Main Street, just passed the Five Points intersection. Our usual time of meeting is at 12:30 p.m.

George lead a brief discussion on the benefits of using
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Hurricane Katrina Aftermath

If you've never thought about "preparedness" before, Katrina should cause you to rethink your ability to survive following a major disaster.

Now would be a good time to get involved with ARES/RACES and to find out more about CERT training and programs in

the area. Duke, W4DK, is the ARRL Emergency Coordinator for Henderson County and would welcome volunteers.

Lee Mager, KN4GC, is the CERT Coordinator for Henderson County and he, too, would welcome your expression of interest and willingness to become in-

involved.

Ham Radio is a great hobby, but perhaps no where else to we shine as bright as when we use our skills to help alleviate the suffering of others.

Get involved, it's the thing to do.

CLUB PURPOSES

Elmers: We have many "elmers"! An elmer is a knowledgeable amateur radio operator who is willing to help new hams and "students" with questions or procedures and help them to understand more about the hobby.

Purpose: The purpose of this organization shall be to further exchange of information and cooperation be-

tween members, to promote radio knowledge, fraternalism and individual operating efficiency, and to promote and conduct Club programs and activities as to advance the general interest and welfare of amateur radio in the community.

Volunteer Examinations: Once per quarter, our volunteer examiners will provide an opportunity for YOU to

get your amateur license or upgrade your present status.

NEXT SESSION: May 14.
Call Carol, K4YYR for Details

Classes: We occasionally have classes so YOU can learn how to get your very own amateur radio Technician class license

President:

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Minutes, cont'd.

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solar energy in emergencies. He would like for those of us who can to see about the possibilities of this happening in our shacks, and more use of solar power for field day.

Lil Clark, KG4GFP, club treasurer, gave the report bottom line. As of club meeting time, the bottom line was \$666.43.

The featured program this month was given by Duke Knief, W4DK. Duke brought forth an interesting discussion on airborne communications. While the first thought that occurs to you is probably phone operations, Duke showed us that there are many forms of communication in the commercial air industry. These include maps, visuals, and beacons.

One of the most interesting points that Duke made was the use of instruments when an airplane was approaching the airport for landing. Duke used visuals to show us how the plane was lined up for landing, the type of signals used to show the pilot that he was on course, and how the final approach would look to the pilot.

The 50-50 drawing was won by Doug Lee, W9SPC.

Respectfully submitted,
Sid Hendricks W4IOE

(Continued from page 1)

gust 31.

To file on-line comments on the FCC NPRM&O in WT Docket 05-235 or to view others' comments in the proceeding, visit the FCC Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) at <http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/>. Interested parties also may submit comments via the Federal Rulemaking Portal, <http://www.regulations.gov>.

People with disabilities may contact the FCC to request reasonable accommodations (accessible format documents, sign language interpreters, CART, etc) by e-mail, FCC504@fcc.gov, or telephone 202-418-0530; TTY 202-418-0432.

For additional information, contact William T. Cross, William.Cross@fcc.gov, in the FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, 202-418-0680; TTY 202-418-7233.

Alternative formats are available for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), via e-mail request, FCC504@fcc.gov, or by calling the Consumer and Government Affairs Bureau: 202-418-0530; TTY 202-418-0432.

An FCC Report and Order in this proceeding is not likely until late 2005 or early 2006.

Pictures from Field Day 2005



Prez Sez, cont'd

(Continued from page 2)

would love to eliminate ham radio altogether and sell our frequencies to the highest bidder, maybe Rupert Murdoch. The totalitarian state is very smart though, it first makes us fat, dumb and happy, makes life real easy and then...

then they will take it away from us. As for me I will brush up on my CW, it could be more important than a gun. If the ARRL had the clout of the NRA, they would fight this tooth and nail!

Ham Radio News

VANITY FEES INCREASE:

The application fee for an Amateur Radio vanity call sign rose to \$21.90 effective for applications received on or after Tuesday, August 23. The FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau released a new Fee Filing Guide this week, and WTB personnel have confirmed that the new vanity fee is in effect.

In a Report and Order and Order On Reconsideration (R&O) in the assessment and collection of regulatory fees for fiscal years 2004 and 2005 released July 7, the FCC raised the vanity application fee for FY 2005 from \$20.80 to \$21.90 for the 10-year license term. The FCC said it had adjusted FY 2004 "payment units" for each service to better reflect expected FY 2005 payment liabilities. The fee went up from \$16.30 to \$20.80 a year ago.

A reevaluation in the number of anticipated vanity call sign applications--or "payment units"--accounts for this latest fee hike. The FCC says it anticipates 7600 vanity applications--up only slightly

from a year earlier.

More information on vanity call signs is available on the ARRL Web site, www.arrl.org/arrlvec/vanity.html.

AMATEUR RADIO PUBLIC AWARENESS DAY EMERGENCY POWER OPERATING EVENT SET FOR SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 --

Amateurs will participate in a 15-hour operating event on emergency power. On that day, amateurs make contacts with others who are also using only emergency power to demonstrate preparedness for emergency communications for the public. Emergency power can be any source that is completely separate from commercial mains: solar panels, generators, storage batteries, alternators powered by bicycles, battery packs in HTs, and wind power, for examples. Operation can be from home or field.

Times: 9 AM Eastern (6 AM Pacific) on Saturday, September 17, 2005, until 12 AM Eastern (9 PM Pacific). All bands and modes included. The exchange is up to the individual operators but can include the traditional

signal report, location, and the type of emergency power being used, for examples. W1AW will be QRV on generator power. A special QSL card will be available to those stations using emergency power that contact W1AW. (A regular QSL card will still be available

to those stations that wish to contact W1AW, but who are not using emergency power). Please include an SASE with your card request, and please indicate the power source that was used (if applicable).

FCC REALIGNS AMATEUR PRIVILEGES FOR REGION 1 AND 3 LICENSEES —

The FCC has realigned Amateur Radio allocations for Commission licensees living or operating within Regions 1 and 3. The changes to Part 97, which reflect decisions made at World Radiocommunication Conference 2003, make the band 7100-7200 kHz available to amateur operators in Regions 1 and 3 effective September 9.

Under the revised regime, Novice and Technician Plus licensees may operate 7.100-7.150 MHz, CW only, 200 W output;

General licensees may operate 7.100-7.150 MHz, CW/RTTY/data, 200 W output; Advanced and Amateur Extra may operate 7.100-7.150 MHz, CW/RTTY/data, 200 W and 7.150-7.200 MHz, CW/phone/image, 1500 W output. The special segments below 7.100 MHz are also retained.

The changes to Part 97 affect approximately 1250 FCC licensees as well as Commission-licensed stations operating portable or mobile within Regions 1 and 3.

After March 29, 2009, the 7.1-7.2 MHz segment will be allocated to the Amateur Service on a primary and exclusive basis throughout the world, with some exceptions.



Email: k4kqj@arrl.net

BRARC on the Web
www.radioclub.org

Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club



Club Meeting Tuesday
 September 6, 2005



Henderson County ARES
 Training Session
 Thursday, September 15,
 2005, 7:00 pm
 Henderson County EOC



Next club meeting
 October 4, 2005 7:30 pm
 Stony Mountain Activity
 Center



QCWA Chapter 76—
 1st and 3rd Wednes-
 days at Ryan's in Hen-
 dersonville. Noon-ish.

Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club
 P.O. Box 831
 Horse Shoe, NC 28742

Nets and On-The-Air Activities

<u>Net</u>	<u>Freq / PL</u>	<u>Day/Time</u>
BRARC Net	146.640 MHz/ 91.5	Sunday 8:00 PM
BRARC Rag Chew	28350 kHz	Sunday following 146.640 net
Oasis Shrine Net	145.190 MHz	Sunday 9:00 PM
Mount Pisgah 220 Net	224.260 MHz	Sunday 9:00 PM
Good Morning Net	146.760 MHz	M-W-F 9:00 AM
WCARS Info. Net	146.910 MHz/ 91.5	Monday 8:30 PM
Mount Mitchell 220 Net	224.540 MHz	Monday 9:00 PM
WCARS Simplex Net	147.525 MHz	Tuesday 8:30 PM
Henderson County ARES Net	146.640 MHz / 91.5	Wednesday 9:00 PM
Hit and Bounce Net(CW)	7.042 MHz	Daily 8:30 AM
Buncombe ARES Net	146.910 MHz/ 91.5	Wednesday 9:00 PM
Transylvania ARC Net	147.135 MHz	Thursday 8:00 PM
QCWA Chapter 76	3942 kHz (SSB)	Saturday 9:00 AM
6600 Net	145.190 MHz	Saturday 9:00 PM
K4UUQ Morning Net	7225.5 kHz (SSB)	Mon-Sat 7:00 AM Sunday 8:00 AM
NC Morning Net	3927 kHz (SSB)	Daily 7:45 AM
SATERN Net	14265 kHz	Daily 10:00 AM
Carolinas Slow Net	3695 kHz (CW 5-8 wpm)	Daily 8:00 PM
NC Evening Net	3923 kHz (SSB)	Daily 6:30 PM
Carolinas Net (Early)	3573 kHz (CW 20-22 wpm)	Daily 7:00 PM
Tarheel ARES Net	3923 kHz (SSB)	Daily 7:30 PM
Blue Ridge Traffic (SC)	146.610 MHz	Daily 9:00 PM
Carolinas Net (Late)	3573 kHz (CW 15-18 wpm)	Daily 10:00 PM

Report changes to Dick Smith at 687-9531 or k4kqj@arrl.net!