



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

Official Transmitter of the Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club - W4YK



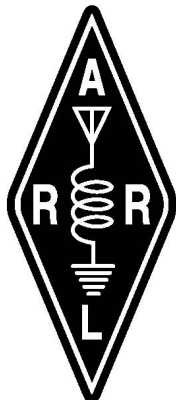
Volume 18, Number 10 October, 2005

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**At the next meeting**

- Rod Baird, KE4YII, will present a program entitled "All you want to know about solar power"
- There will be the usual 50/50 drawing.
- Refreshments courtesy of Doug, W9SPC



## ATOP BEARWALLOW

Amateur Radio volunteers have been utilizing a variety of modes, including HF, VHF-UHF, Winlink and VoIP, to pass Hurricane Rita-related traffic. The West Gulf ARES Emergency Net continues 24-hour operation on 7.285 MHz days/3.873 MHz evenings, with health-and-welfare traffic taking place on 7.285 MHz days/3.935 MHz evenings. The net also is using 7.290 MHz. The Salvation Army Team Emergency Net (SATERN) has been activating at 1400 UTC daily on 14.265 MHz and monitoring for emergency requests. All amateurs are requested to keep these HF net frequencies clear for Hurricane Rita emergency operations.

Authorities were not yet

allowing residents or relief agencies into some of the hardest-hit communities in Texas and Louisiana, and it's not known yet what Amateur Radio assistance will be needed for those areas. Reports say downed trees and flooding are the primary reasons. As of Sunday, officials were restricting reentry to the Texas counties of Jefferson--where Beaumont and Port Arthur are located--and Orange. South Texas Section Emergency Coordinator Jerry Reimer, KK5CA, says the fact that potential ham radio volunteers were among the evacuees created some gaps for ARES.

"Included in the mandatory evacuation areas were five ARES emergency coordinators, one district emergency coordi-

nator and nearly all their ARES registrants," Reimer noted. "To the surprise of many people, mandatory evacuation orders also applies to Amateur Radio operators, which left some key facilities short of their last-minute expectations." He said it also left some county emergency operations centers (EOCs) without operators, although the EOC staffs knew this ahead of time.

Many ARES operators who had been positioned in advance at critical facilities in the Greater Houston area--including police substations and hospitals--have been released, Reimer reported over the weekend.

From ARRL Bulletin 22 9/26/05

### W9FOT has Moved

Herm Fabert, W9FOT, a long time ham radio enthusiast and member of the BRARC has relocated to a new QTH in Washington state.

You may reach Herm at the following address:

Herm Fabert, Jr.  
285 Addison Avenue S.  
Apt. 404  
Bainbridge Island, WA  
98110  
206-780-8838

Herm can also be reached via email at:

w9fhw@arrl.net.

We all wish him well in his new "digs."

## PREZ SEZ, GEORGE KORPER, K3GK, PRESIDENT

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 Sept. 2005 - Lil Clark

Balance as of 8/31/05 - \$666.43  
Less: Expenses - \$ 70.60  
Balance as of 9/20/05 - \$595.83

We had no deposits for 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 for more information.

Good news Rita has weakened. Bad news Katrina was a warning to all of us that communicate that our energy system is fragile. Frankly, our dependence on fossil fuel is now entirely obvious. Even those of us that have generators may be only a few days longer on the air. Any protracted supply disruption will be leaving us watching and listening to the doleful sound of sputtering engines. But there is hope. Our club's solar energy initiative is gaining momentum. On behalf of the club Michael Parente has researched the available alternatives and Rod will be addressing the club this month on how to "roll your own" solar system. Ken acquired a panel at, of course, at Smiley's Flea market and I have a small panel on order. Waldon has a panel too. Several members were

already ahead of the game and Michael is purchasing one as well. It appears that we can have a whole tent dedicated to renewable power at next year's field day. This is good news, very good news. Many people have been wondering about God these days, and FEMA too. Well, God has been known to deliver a warning shot and Katrina is a wake up call. We don't have to listen but the message is clear... change our ways. As for FEMA I would like to hear this - "FEMA I establishing a city in the desert capable of housing 1,000,000 people on an emergency basis. It will be made of solar powered modular housing, have a factory to employ people making solar panels and hydrogen fuel cells. There will be six airstrips ready to transport evacuees to the "Solar City" and a

complete, independent fuel supply along with water resources management from rainwater. The cost of \$20, 000,000, 000 will be far less than the cost of what we spend on other bull---- after the disasters occurs." That is what I would do if I were President of these old United States. Come on people, we really can solve this problem — but we have to start now!



## GEAR AND GOODIES

Doug Lee, W9SPC is overseeing the disposition of Arnie Prorer's equipment.

The list is too long to cover in the Echo.

You may obtain a complete listing on the Club's Website [www.radioclub.org](http://www.radioclub.org)

Also, you can receive the list by email in .pdf format or .doc format by emailing [k4kqj@radioclub.org](mailto:k4kqj@radioclub.org) and putting pronerpdf or pronerdoc in the subject line.

Other Gear is also listed on the website.

## 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

As is the norm, our meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance to the national flag. There were 28 persons in attendance, including three visitors. Our visitors were Bayard Coolidge, N1HO; Walter Hutton, WA2GWL; and, Vladimir Karamitrov, N3CZ. We welcomed the visitors, and we hope they liked what they saw so that we may have the pleasure of seeing them again. George Korper, K3GK, presided.

One of the first things we did was to critique the way communications were handled at the Apple Festival Parade in Hendersonville on Labor Day. Duke Knief, W4DK, led in this discussion as he had coordinated us for the parade. First, we want to express our thanks to the fine group that turned out to help with the event.

Duke mentioned the following: We should only talk when we need to. Be on time so the coordinator can position the people. If two operators are on station, only one talk. Have your battery charged, and bring a charged spare. Know the procedures for proper communicating.

Everyone who wants to participate in the two up-coming Christmas parades is to bring the radio they plan to use to see if the radio works, and is properly programmed, to the November meeting.

Lil Clark, KG4GFP, club treasurer, was away on a trip. George reported that Lil had asked him to report to the club that there was \$652.95 in the treasury.

The club picnic is to be held on September 10th, at Holmes State Forest. We also want to wish Harry Mills, K4HU, a happy 98th birthday.

Our feature presentation was by Dave Anderson, K4SV. The theme of Dave's presentation had to do with dx'ing. Before Dave began his presentation, he announced that anyone who was interested in dx was cordially invited on the Pizza Inn on the second Monday of each month to an informal meeting of dx'ers. Dave advised that anything that had to do with dx was open for discussion. The Pizza Inn is located at the old exit 22 off Interstate 26 in Hendersonville, N.C.

The presentation began with Dave bringing to remembrance the trip he took to Baker Island

## Minutes, cont'd

in the South Pacific. As you will recall, Dave gave an earlier talk with slides on this trip. He then showed us a different approach to a dx-pedition.

Having gone to Germany for the Southern Germany hamfest, he and a German friend sat up a station to work back to the U.S., and the world. During this trip, Dave and his friend also went to Liechtenstein and France. In each country, a station was set up, and dx was worked. Dave had many fine slides of the trip

along with his narration.

Dave also went on vacation to the Turks and Caicos Islands. He claimed he only went because of the family's insistence! Hi! Again, guess what he took with him in the baggage. That's right, his portable radio gear. This was a fun trip for Dave and his family, but he was able to still make many contacts. He presented slides of the beautiful scenery in the islands.

The fifty-fifty drawing was won by

new ham Greg Capps, KI4LDU. Meeting was then adjourned.

Respectfully submitted  
Sid Hendricks W4IOE

## 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:**  
*George Korper, K3GK*  
828-694-3820  
k3gk@arrl.net

**Vice President:**  
*Gene Mathis, KG4SXE*  
828-698-2734

**Secretary:**  
*Sid Hendricks,*  
KG4NBN  
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**Treasurer:**  
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**Equipment:**  
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KO4JN  
828-891-9956

**Membership:**  
*Lil Clark—see above*

**Public Relations:**  
*Dick Smith, K4KQJ*  
828-687-9531  
K4kqj@arrl.net

**Trustee:**  
*Steve Smith, KC5F*  
828-697-6388  
kc5f@arrl.net



Email: k4kqj@arrl.net

**BRARC on the Web**  
[www.radioclub.org](http://www.radioclub.org)

*Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club*



Club Meeting Tuesday  
 October 4, 2005



Henderson County ARES  
 Training Session  
 Thursday, October 13,  
 2005, 7:00 pm  
 Henderson County EOC



Next club meeting  
 November 1, 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>
<b>BRARC Net</b>	<b>146.640 MHz/ 91.5</b>	<b>Sunday 8:00 PM</b>
<b>BRARC Rag Chew</b>	<b>28350 kHz</b>	<b>Sunday following 146.640 net</b>
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
<b>Henderson County ARES Net</b>	<b>146.640 MHz / 91.5</b>	<b>Wednesday 9:00 PM</b>
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
<b>QCWA Chapter 76</b>	<b>3942 kHz (SSB)</b>	<b>Saturday 9:00 AM</b>
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!