



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

Official Transmitter of the Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club - W4YK



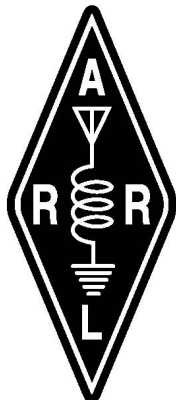
Volume 19, Number 4 April, 2006

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**At the next meeting**

- Dave Anderson, K4SV, will speak on the recently completed Peter One DX-pedition.
- There will be the usual 50/50 drawing.



## 2005 North Carolina QSO Party-BRARC Style.

North Carolina held its QSO Party on February 26<sup>th</sup>, and BRARC was amongst the revelers at the party. Four of us contested from the club's shack using the W4YK call. During our 4+ hours on the air we contacted 23 of the 100 counties in North Carolina. That is only 5 fewer counties than our record 28 of last year. Total score was 3038 points. A good showing, but will it be strong

enough to hold on to our previous 5<sup>th</sup> place? Time will tell; results are announced about the end of May.

The photo shows Bob Delwiche, KD4OKT, and Dick Sanders, AG4PW,

in hot pursuit of a new QSO. Participants were Bob, KD4OKT; Dick, AG4PW; Ronnie, K2SST; and Al, W2GJS. Making a brief cameo appearance at the shack were Michael, AI4GR, and Kathleen, KI4GQZ.



Article and picture courtesy of Michael, AI4GR

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### PREZ SEZ, GEORGE KORPER, K3GK, PRESIDENT

It's spring again in the mountains. Time to start thinking about Field Day. The Steering Committee has discussed an all out effort to

supply our field Day energy requirements with solar power. This is not an easy to task, so it will be a challenge. We may be con-

fronted with rain and clouds as well. I do like a challenge. The April meeting is a full one with good presenters including Dave

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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.net>

**Financial Statement for March 2006 - Lil Clark**

Balance as of 2/28/06 - \$ 1,016.35  
 Plus: Deposits - 123.00  
 Sub-total - \$ 1,139.35  
 Less: Expenses - 259.63  
 Balance: as of 3/20/06 - \$ 879.72

Prez Sez, cont'd the meeting and see if he will reveal his 'top secret' agenda. I'm planning on bringing a kite this year, so I hope it is at least a little windy. This is going to be a great Field Day this year, and I'm looking forward to that marvelous spirit of cooperation that makes our club worthy of these beautiful mountains.

**PREZ SEZ,** GEORGE KORPER, K3GK, PRESIDENT

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Anderson, K4SV, and WI3N, Jim Cross, the MDC section manager coming down from our nation's Capitol to discuss emergency response but



during the meeting I will ask for volunteers for an

energy task force to concentrate on conservation and supply. I will also ask for an inventory of member's available batteries and request some club funds to purchase batteries if required. We should also look at using our generator to charge batteries if 'the sun don't shine'! This mountain weather can be

tricky. On the conservation side we can ask members to bring lamps and cooking equipment that runs on propane, kerosene and solar rather than electricity. Does anyone out there have a solar cooking furnace? Duke is cooking up one big surprise for field day this year. You can pick on Duke at

**MINUTES CONT'D.**

falling on you.

Walt made mention of properly grounding your home generator, and making sure there is no danger of carbon monoxide getting into the house or garage. Position your generator where practical, but in a well ventilated area. If you feed power into

the house circuit, be sure to isolate the power from the power company's grid. You don't want to have your generator burned up if the power from the electric service comes on; or, you don't want to electrocute a lineman working on a pole.

The 50-50 drawing was won

by George Korper, K3GK. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Sid Hendricks W4IOE

**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; \$10.00 per additional family member. **Please send your renewals to: Lil Clark, 15 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-MARCH 7, 2006

I would like to take a quick moment to thank Carol Frost, K4YYR, for so ably taking the minutes and reporting them to the editor, covering the February 2005 meeting. Our daughter delivered a new baby on February 6th, 2006. This made our third granddaughter. Thanks Carol!!

The March meeting convened at 7:30 on March 7th, at the Stoney Mtn. Community center. We had 29 Members in attendance, and everyone was in good spirits. George Korper, K3GK, club president served as presiding officer. After the Pledge of Allegiance, our meeting came to order. There being no old business or new business, we went into the announcement and report time of the meeting.

Congratulations to Duke Knief, W4DK, for being recognized in the latest edition of QST magazine. Duke was on the A.R.E.S. honor roll!

Speaking of A.R.E.S., I would like to remind everyone that the A.R.E.S. net meets each Wednesday evening at 9:00 p.m. The net

controllers would like more check-ins. You don't have to be an A.R.E.S. member, but please remember this is a controlled net.

Carol Frost, K4YYR, issued a plea for V.E. help at the Charlotte ham-fest, which was to be held on the 11th of March.

The Biltmore Horse Endurance run will be held on May 20th at the Biltmore House grounds. Operators are needed. Sign up sheets will be passed in the May meeting.

Michael Parente, AI4GR, gave a report on the North Carolina Q.S.O. party, held in February. There were six operators who participated.

The club will begin making comments concerning field day for the year of 2006. The field day event tentatively will be held at Fletcher Park again this year.

Lil Clark, KG4GFP, reported that the bottom line in the treasury as \$873.60. Members who have yet to pay dues are reminded to do so.

The feature presentation for the month was a talk on wire antennas. While the putting up of wire antennas seems fairly easy, Walt reminded us of some basics of wire antennas, and hanging them. Walt gave us two references, one being writings by Lou McCoy, and the other being a book by the wireman, Pres Jones. One basic thing many fail to realize is to be properly prepared to hang the antenna. It can get frustrating being half way through a job, then finding you don't have all the parts you need.

There are things to consider even in the choosing of the proper wire. Insulated or not? Copperweld or soft or hard copper. How long is the antenna to be? What kind of transmission feed will be used? How will you attach the feed line? How will you get the wire antenna up on the supports? These were a few of the questions Walt covered. Walt also mentioned using the proper knot in the support ropes so as to support the weight of the antenna. You don't want the weight

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### 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 20, 2006, 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



Email: k4kqj@arrl.net



Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club



Club Meeting Tuesday  
April 4, 2006



Dave Anderson, K4SV, will  
speak on the recent Peter  
One DX-pedition.



Next club meeting  
May 2, 2006 **7:30 pm**  
**At the SMAC!**



QCWA Chapter 76—  
1st and 3rd Wednes-  
days at the Golden  
Corral, US64 East,  
Hendersonville. 11ish.

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!