



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

Official Transmitter of the Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club - W4YK



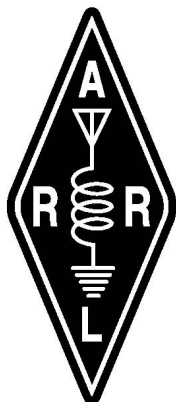
Volume 19, Number 5 May, 2006

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At the next meeting

- Martin Harris, W4FOT... Everything batteries.
- There will be the usual 50/50 drawing.



Antenna Causes Downpour

After 2 months of dry, beautiful weather, six members of BRARC met to raise an antenna. You guessed it! By the time the wires topped the mast, the sky opened. Wind! Rain! Electrons! We had it all.

Ronnie, K2SST constructed the antenna from a design in the ARRL Antenna Compendium. It is a portable inverted

Vee that works 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters, all without an external tuner. Ground radials are unnecessary. A single mast provides support, and a 1:1 balun at the

top feeds the coax lead-in. The antenna slopes to the ground at about 60 degrees and helps guy the mast. This design is similar to a



dipole, but its sloping sides make it much less directional in radiation pattern.

The initial mast fractured, probably because of high

wind load. After rushing in a more substantial substitute, wire elements were cut to length using an antenna analyzer. An SWR below 2:1 was achieved across all phone bands. Even with frozen fingers the team was able to tune in stations in Crete and Finland.

Working with Ronnie were Martin, W4FOT; George, K3GK; Michael, AI4GR; Doug, W9SPC; and Ed, KT4US. The

photo shows Ed, Ronnie, Doug, and Martin tipping the antenna into place

PREZ SEZ, GEORGE KORPER, K3GK, PRESIDENT

Solar Field Day is coming soon. The Club will need everyone who has a deep discharge battery to bring it Saturday the 24th of

June. We will cap (connect them to the solar panels and add charge)) the batteries on solar power at the event. Anyone who has a

panel should bring it as well. This year we will also be serving Southern Fried Chicken. If anyone has a good recipe and is willing to

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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, GEORGE KORPER, K3GK, PRESIDENT

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prepare this marvelous dish please volunteer. The club will be buying. We will be antenna experimenting on Field Day, with balloons, kites and ver-



tical masts. It should be fun. On Field Day, ARES

will be opening up the EOC in Hendersonville and anyone who hasn't seen the emergency setup should ask Duke for a tour. We will need to be looking our best so I am asking the club to purchase new hats for everyone. I am planning to be more active this year at night, and on CW. Let's see if we can really

rack up some points. Please come to the meeting so we can organize the event and you can add your input !~! 73's
 George K3GK

MINUTES CONT'D.

the Peter 1 Dxpediton have the distinction of working "one of the rare ones". After hearing Dave speak, and viewing the pictures, one has to admire the dedication that these men have to the amateur radio hobby. The cost, and the conditions on the island, would have stymied many. Thanks for a

great presentation, Dave.

The fifty-fifty drawing was won by Doug Metzler.

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-APRIL 4, 2006

The monthly meeting of the Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club was held April the 4th, at our regular meeting place, the Stoney Mountain Recreation Center. For those of you reading these minutes who aren't club members and are wanting to join our club, or to visit, our club meets the first Tuesday of each month. The center is located next door to the Henderson County landfill on Stoney Mountain Road, Hendersonville, N.C. George Korper, K3GK, was the presiding officer, and we had thirty three in attendance.

We want to welcome two new members: Dean Holmberg, KG4BMM; and, Will Hicks, KI4NXP. Welcome gentlemen!! We also had two visitors, Darren Oakley, who is interested in the hobby of ham radio; and, Jim Cross, WI3N. Jim is the Maryland-D.C. section manager, and was the guest of George Korper

The meeting came to order promptly at 7:30, as we had Dave Anderson, K4SV, on tap to tell us about his exciting Dxpediton trip to Peter

One Island. Business was brief.

Dick Smith, K4KQJ, announced that the Biltmore Horse Endurance run would be held May 20th on the Biltmore Estate grounds. Operators are needed!! Dick passed a sign up sheet, so if you didn't get to sign up, remember to do so at the May meeting,, or call Dick.

Duke Knief, W4DK, spoke briefly on packet radio messages. If you handle packet traffic, be sure to handle it properly, and pass it on! Also, If you post a packet message, be sure to take it down in a timely manner. Old messages just clutter the board.

Lil Clark, KG4GFP, club treasurer, reported the bottom line at \$802.37. This was the balance in the treasury as of club meeting time.

Dave Anderson then began his presentation on the trip to Peter 1 Island. Dave began by telling us that this had been probably the most expensive Dxpediton to have ever taken place. The trip cost in excess of \$500,000. To get there, one

had to fly to Argentina, go by boat to within four miles or so of the island, then fly from the boat deck by helicopter to the island.

All the supplies had to be ferried to the island by helicopter. Dave had slides to show the conditions on the trip, and of the island. The island consists of volcanic rock, covered with six to seven hundred feet of snow. The camp was set up on a clear field of snow. Deep fissures were around this one area that was chosen, so Dave said hardly anyone ventured far from camp.

Temporary buildings were set up, after everyone had gotten wet from rain. The heavy fog set in, causing the helicopter to be ship bound for a time. Heat was provided by propane heaters. Temperatures ran to -4 degrees to about 34 degrees. The camp cook refused to cook, therefore, the operators had to fend for themselves.

During the thirteen days on the island, the operators had a grand total of 86,891 contacts. Those who worked

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President:

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

Vice President:

Gene Mathis, K4SXE
828-698-2734

Secretary:

Sid Hendricks,
KG4NBN
828-684-8130

Treasurer:

Lil Clark, KG4GFP
828-877-5223
peregrine13@citcom.net

Members-At-Large:

Michael Parente
AI4GR
828-891-8970
Ai4gr@arrl.net
Ronnie Parham
K2SST
Ronk2sst@bellsouth.net

Antennas:

Walt Wernsing,
KO4JN
828-891-9956
walter134@cytechcis.net

Echo/Webpage

Editor:

Dick Smith, K4KQJ,
828-687-9531
k4yyr@arrl.net

ARRL Emergency

Coordinator:

Duke Knief, W4DK
828-891-4359
w4dk@arrl.net

Equipment:

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

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
May 2, 2006



Martin Harris, W4FOT, on
everything batteries..



Next club meeting
June 6, 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>
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!