



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

Official Transmitter of the Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club - W4YK



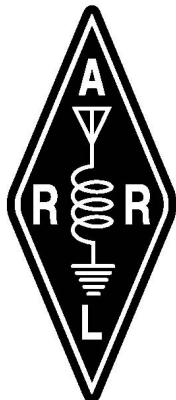
Volume 20, Number 5 May, 2007

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At the next meeting

- There will be the usual 50/50 drawing.
- **Portable Operations:** George Korper, W3GK



MS Walk

April 14th dawned cloudy and cool but improved throughout the morning. Several BRARC members met at Applebee's for breakfast, to support another charity, at 7:00 am.

Following breakfast it was off to Hendersonville Elementary for the beginning of the day. Ronnie, KF4AYG had everything well laid out for us to provide support to the staff and participants of the MS Walk. The event concluded earlier than usual since the number of participants seemed to be down from previous years.

Thanks to Ronnie, KF4AYG; Harry, N4ZVX; Lee, KN4GC; Frank, KI4NC; Craig, KE4DFV; George, W3GK; Dick, K4KQJ; Walden, KG4LQX;

BRARC News

Ronnie, K2SST; Gene, KG4SXE.

FIELD DAY—2007

Time to get your thinking caps on for the Annual ARRL Field Day exercise, June 23-24, 2007. Hopefully the weather will be more co-operative this year.

After conferring with several Club members and visiting several different sites, we will again be using the Fletcher Community Park on Howard Gap Road in Fletcher as our Field Day site. While there are advantages and disadvantages of all the sites we looked at, Fletcher still provides us with the most reasonable site. Included in the search were Jackson Park, Patton Park and the grounds of the Church of the Holy Family in Mills River.

We will again be operating in class 2A this year. While it would be nice to have three or more stations on the air, we are

not able to staff more stations with operators.

Fletcher Park will afford us and excellent opportunity for club members to try out their latest and greatest portable antenna creations. So if you have an antenna you want to put through it's paces, make sure you come out early on Saturday to put it up.

Operator sign-up and final details will be announced at the June meeting.

Biltmore Ride

Biltmore Ride information packets have been mailed to participants. Look for them Friday or Saturday this week.

PREZ SEZ, GENE MATHIS, KG4SXE PRESIDENT

And here is the Prez Sez : Hello to all, Hope all are doing well. Well Saturday April the 14th was the Hendersonville MS Walk. The radio communications participants were : N4ZVX, KF4DFV, KG4UAD, KN4GC, K3GK, KI4NC,

K4KQJ, George KG4LQX, W4DK, K2SST, KF4AYG, and KG4SXE. I would like to thank all who participated, as I know Ronnie KF4AYG would as well. Also thank you Ronnie KF4AYG for enlisting our help and for coordinating

the efforts. We were told there were 166 walkers and no injuries were reported. The weather cooperated well and about \$47,000 was raised for the MS Society. Very good work by all. 73 to all and see ya'll at the meeting, Gene KG4SXE.

GOVERNOR OF MAINE—KB1NXP

Financial Statement for
April, 2007 - Lil Clark
Balance as of 3/31/07
\$ 1024.72
Plus Deposits
12.00
Sub-Total \$ 1036.97
Less Expenses 39.00
Balance as of 4/20/07
\$ 997.72

a major disaster.

In his State House office, he keeps his portable ham radio on a desk right next to his two emergency phones -- a black Homeland Security line and a separate red emergency phone.

"It's there, 24-7," said Baldacci, who is also considering whether to set up a more elaborate base at Blaine House.

Hams didn't emerge as a critical communications link during last week's storm because most phone and Internet lines were still up. But hams were busy in the background. For example, they relayed the locations of emergency shelters, said William Woodhead of Auburn, AARL's section manager for Maine. The state has about 4,000 licensed hams.

For Sale:

Icom IC 2000 2M transceiver
\$100.00

W4GCK 828-698-2718

By Associated Press | April
22, 2007

AUGUSTA, Maine -- Just in case disaster strikes, the governor's at the ready with his radio.

To other amateur radio operators, or hams, he's KBI-NXP. To everyone else, he's Governor John E. Baldacci.

Baldacci said he was inspired to go for his federal amateur radio operator's license when he observed the important role hams can play in January 1998 when Maine was wracked by disaster.

"I saw it firsthand during the

ice storm when the communications system went down," Baldacci said as he returned from surveying the damage from Maine's latest disaster, last week's coastal storm that caused tens of millions of dollars in damage.

Under the tutelage of Rodney Scribner, a former state finance official who now oversees ham operations for the Maine Emergency Management Agency, Baldacci mastered the rigorous amateur radio-licensing requirements.

It required getting up early many mornings and piecing studies around campaigns

and other demands on the former congressman's time. Baldacci was issued a license last fall.

It makes him the nation's only governor with a ham license, said Allen Pitts, spokesman for the American Radio Relay League, or AARL, a national association based in Connecticut.

"It's a topic for which the hams are right proud," Pitts said.

Baldacci sees his radio qualifications as a component of his job, saying they give him all of the pieces he needs to oversee response and recovery in the event of

GEAR AND GOODIES

For Sale:

ICOM 707 HAM STATION
with Icom 707 transceiver,
Icom AT-160 auto antenna
tuner,

MFJ-4225MV 25A switching
power supply, Icom SM-6
desktop mike, Icom SP-7 ex-
ternal speaker. \$695.

OUTBACKER PERTH
PLUS 75-2M ANTENNA w/
PORTA-POD GROUND
PLANE ANTENNA BASE.
\$295.
Dave Parlier W2CGG. 693-
4665.

**From the estate of Ollie
Johnson** (sk), K4HBH, for-

mer Blue Ridge Amateur
Radio Club member.

For sale:
1 Hf xcvrTen-TEC
Omni, model 546C
1 Pyramid 35 amp power
supply

**Contact Mrs. Barbara
Jeter (Ollie's daughter) at
828-697-9573 for prices.**

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 3, 2007

The April meeting of the Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club began at 7:30 p.m. on April 3rd. There were 28 in attendance, including our visitors. The attendance was helped by the early changing of daylight savings time, and the fact that we were beginning to experience an early spring. The club president, Gene Mathis, KG4SXE, was the presiding officer.

After the meeting was gavelled to order, the first order of business was reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to our country's flag. Gene issued a warm welcome to all that were present. Bill Onuska, KD4RRY, had his daughter, Michelle, with him as a guest. Bill celebrated his 80th birthday on April 1st, and Michelle had come from her home in Oregon to help him celebrate. After the welcome, Gene asked Lil Clark, KG4GFP, for the treasurer's report. Lil reported that at the time of this month's meeting, there was \$1,024.72 in the club treasury.

There were only a couple announcements to be made. The first was a plea for op-

erators to help in the annual MS Walk to be held on April 14th.

Ron Galloway, KF4AYG, will be heading this public service event, with the help of the Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club, and the Henderson County A.R.E.S. A sign up sheet was circulated among those present to enlist help from those who wished to participate.

The second announcement was given by Dick Smith, K4KQJ, reminding everyone of the annual Biltmore horse Endurance Run to be held May 5th.

This month's feature presentation was given by Jeff Kelly, K4JAB. Jeff gave a talk, complete with a power point program, about the new mode, digital voice on single side band. The new mode is being used by the military, international short wave broadcasters, and Amateur radio operators. There are two ways to get into digital voice.

The easiest way, but the most expensive is to buy the equipment from AOR. No doubt, you may have seen their ad in QST. This equipment is a plug and

play set up. The second way is to download WinDRM onto your computer, and with the use of the computer sound card, receive and send digital voice. Most applications will require two sound cards—one to receive and one to transmit. As you can already see, this is another mode that requires use of a computer with your transceiver.

Jeff has used this mode and reports that FM quality sound is possible on HF. The mode uses the same amount of band space as a normal single side band signal. One draw back is the mode is not suited for weak signal work at this time, and there doesn't seem to be many operators using it at this time. Of course, this mode could catch on when it is more refined. More about this mode can be found in the April, 2007 issue of QST.

The 50-50 drawing was won by Michelle Personius (daughter of KD4RRY). Meeting was then adjourned.

Sid, W4IOE

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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 13, 2007. 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 1, 2007

At the May Meeting:
George Korper, W3GK
On
Portable Antennas and Rigs



Next club meeting
June 5, 2007 7:00 pm
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 9:00 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 <i>Note new freq</i>	3571 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!