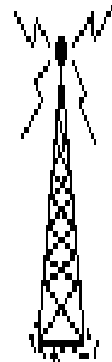


The Blue Ridge Echo .. Echo .. Echo ..



**Official Transmitter of the Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club
- W4YK -**

Volume 22, Number 7 – July 2009

The Prez Sez — I am very proud of all of the service opportunities that you as members have participated in so far this year. I have no idea of the number of volunteer hours that we have built up, but I do hear “thank you” repeated over and over. You are a great group of people. Our next opportunity will be Field Day June 27 and 28. I would love to see everyone involved even if it’s just coming by and shooting the bull with us. Then a week later we will be helping with the July 4th Parade in Hendersonville. Our next meeting will be a follow up of these events to discuss the good and the bad.

73, Danny, AJ4HZ



Field Day 2009 — As in the past several years, we will set up in the Fletcher Community Park. This year the event is June 27 – 28. All of us will be pitching in to make it an interesting and fun experience for the club.

Antennas and tents will go up 9am Saturday morning after an 8am breakfast at the Fletcher House. We’ll be operating from 2:00pm on Saturday until 2:00 pm Sunday. – And be sure to figure on a few hours afterward on Sunday to take down and stow equipment. Dinner on Saturday will be about 5pm. Bring a salad or desert. Guests and youngsters are welcome, and can

try their hand at operating.

We will have three radios operating; set for phone, CW, and digital modes, as needed. A VHF station also will be in operation. We have a memory keyer for CW, but bring your own iambic paddle.

MEETING MINUTES OF June 2nd – The June meeting came to order with Danny Rector, AJ4HZ, club president presiding. We were pleased to have Cheryl Gudger in attendance at the opening of the meeting. Cheryl is with the Merchant’s Association of Hendersonville. She had come to invite us to help with the Fourth of July parade in Hendersonville, N.C. The parade will begin at 11:00 a.m. We will need operators to help, so please let us know if you can help. We will be giving more details on the net, I am assuming we will gather about two hours before parade step-off We had 23 in attendance for the meeting.

As to the business of the club, the minutes were approved for May as recorded in THE ECHO; and, the treasurer's report was approved as read at the time of meeting. Motion was made by Duke, W4DK, and seconded by Martin, W4FOT to approve the reports, motion passed. The treasurer reported \$2133.66 in the treasury.

The remainder of the meeting was dedicated to the preparations for field day. That's right everyone, it is that time of year again. The sign up sheet that went around had a good number of sign ups; but, we can still use operators at night. We also need CW operators.

Our site will be the Fletcher Recreation Park, and all are invited. Some of the crew are planning breakfast at the Fletcher House café at 8:00 a.m., then going to the park after breakfast. We will get the antennas up, rigs brought from the shack, tents erected, and the tables with computers set up. Please bring a chair with you. There will some provided; but, to be sure you have a seat, please bring a chair.

Assignments were made for certain individuals to perform for our field day efforts to succeed. The evening meal will be at 5:00p.m. Ron Fisk, KF4HAT, will be fixin' the barbeque again. Everyone who was there last year will surely remember that! At the meeting, several folks agreed to bring side dishes, more can be used.

SEE you at field day!! Operating begins at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, and will run through 2:00 p.m. on Sunday. We will need people to help with the take down of all the equipment.

The 50-50 drawing was won by Martin, W4FOT.

Respectfully submitted,
Sid Hendricks, W4IOE

Our Next Meeting: July 7, 2009

7:00 pm – Field Day Discussion

BRARC Helps the Fletcher Flyer — On Sunday, June 7th, we provided communications assistance to the 780 riders who pedaled the Fletcher Flyer bicycle ride. Twelve Amateur Radio operators monitored the course, which covered 100 miles through the rolling hills of western North Carolina. Throughout the day we worked with drivers in SAG vehicles and with volunteers at rest stops to provide sustenance and safety to the riders. The 147.105 MHz, WA4KNI, repeater on Bearwallow Mountain was reachable throughout the course. Eight radio operators were in SAG cars; two at rest stops.

Nita, KI4YMH, was net control and Bruce, KI4RBK, was safety officer. The others were: Duke, W4DK; Steve, KC5F; Michael, AI4GR; Debbie, AD2H; Wayne, KF4HOG; Danny, AJ4HZ; George, KG4LQX; Bob, KD4OKT; Bill, KD4RRY; and Gene, KG4SXE. The photo shows Nita, Bill, and Duke at Net Control.



BRARC Talks the Walk — As they do every year, members of the BRARC provided communication support for the Multiple Sclerosis Walk in Hendersonville. On May 2nd six members operated at rest stops or rode in safety vehicles. Participating for the club were: Matt, KG4UAD; Craig, KE4DFV; Steve, KC5F; Danny, AJ4HZ; George, KG4LQX; and Jonathan, KF4NVX.

Shelby Hamfest — We have been informed of the following by organizers of the Shelby Hamfest:

This year our club, in an effort to save money on postage, has decided not to mail brochures. Tickets can now be purchased via paypal through our website at <http://www.shelbyhamfest.org/hamfest.htm>

We are giving away 14 radios this year and you do not have to be present to win.



ARES Notes

The Wednesday ARES training net starts at 8:30PM.

An ARES/RACES membership application is now available on the ARES website, NC4HC.US.

We have listed the first four VHF frequencies of our channelization chart on the website. They are found under the heading of Members > Forms.

Prospective new members are always welcome. See the ARES site <www.NC4HC.US>.

Will - WI1L
Emergency Coordinator, Henderson County



ITEMS FOR SALE

- 1) Radio Shack PRO-96 hand-held trunk track/P25 scanner for sale. (see specs at <http://wiki.radioreference.com/index.php/Pro-96>) - \$225, obo
- 2) MFJ-1278B Multi Mode modem - \$50, obo
- 2) RIGblaster sound card interface (w/RJ45 mic plug) - \$75, obo

Bob, KB5YZG, 696-4103.

If you have items for sale, or need something, notify the editor.

Mark Your Calendar —

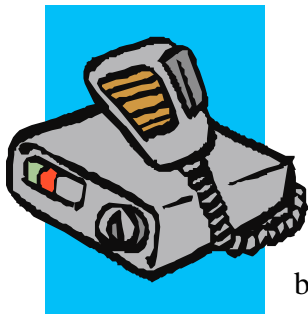
June 27-28 — Field Day
July 4 — Hendersonville Parade
July 25 — WCARS Hamfest
September 5-6 — Shelby Hamfest

Please notify the editor if these dates change, or as new events arise.

— Order Your BRARC Shirt —

SHIRTS - \$30.00 each; checks to Duke Knief.
Order placed when 6 are ordered.

Put callsign and size on memo line of check. An order form must be included with check. Contact Duke, W4DK, for the form.



PTT ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ House Bill HR 2160 -- *The Amateur Radio*

Emergency Communications Enhancement Act of 2009 would instruct the Secretary of Homeland Security to undertake a study to spell out uses and capabilities of Amateur Radio communications in emergencies and disaster relief. The ARRL is asking us to write to our representatives enlisting their support. The ARRL website describes the bill, and provides a sample letter. On the ARRL home page, click *legislation*.

From the ARRL Contest Update, 1/21/09 – Braided RF grounding conductor has largely been discontinued by commercial and military station builders, particularly outside. How come? Frank W3LPL answers the question, "Braid works well when it's under pressure and protected from corrosion, for example in coax cable where it's under pressure and protected by the jacket. It's fine for dc, as well, because there's no RF skin effect. However, braid is a poor performer for indoor RF applications and an extremely bad performer outdoors because the skin effect forces the RF to jump from wire to wire each time at each braided overlap. The joints aren't under pressure, so the quality of the connections is poor. Outdoors the joints corrode and the connections are terrible. In both cases the resistance of the braid joints is poor. So, for RF connections use copper wire or strap. You can use stainless steel as a buffer between copper and galvanize to avoid galvanic action (except in a salt spray environment)."

The French Foreign Legion will host a DXpedition on Glorioso Island 9 – 28 July. This is a rare DX entity; if you can't reach it from home, try the shack.

———— AI4GR is clear.

**Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club
Points Of Contact**

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828-553-8116 will@willstech.com

VE Testing: Sid Hendricks, See above

Membership: - Lil Clark, See above

Public Relations: Dick Smith, See above

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

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Club Information

Address: Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club
PO Box 831, Horse Shoe NC 28742

Dues: Our dues cover the period from January through December. Dues for additional related members in the same household as a Full or Associate member are one-half the applicable rate. Dues for full-time students of an accredited school are one-half the regular rate as long as student status is maintained. New members joining between July and December pay one-half the applicable rate for membership through the end of the year. This year's 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 Stoney Mountain Activity Center at 7:00 pm on the first Tuesday of each month.

\$

Financial Report for June 2009 - Lil Clark

Balance as of 5/31/09 \$ 2383.34

Plus: Deposits 30.00

Less: Expenses 299.67

Balance as of 6/21/09 \$ 2113.67*

*includes \$1000.00 raffle money

\$

Purpose: The purpose of the club is to further the exchange of information and cooperation between members, to promote radio knowledge, fraternalism and individual operating efficiency, and to promote and conduct programs and activities as to advance the general interest and welfare of amateur radio in the community.

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.

Volunteer Examinations: Once per quarter, our volunteer examiners provide an opportunity for YOU to get your amateur license or to upgrade your present status. **NEXT SESSION: August 8, 2009.** Contact Sid, W4IOE for details.

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



A message from the editor..... Articles and submissions for the Echo should be sent by the 15th of each month.

If you have something to add to **YOUR** newsletter, send it to: Michael, AI4GR.

Call me at: 828-891-8970 or E-mail me at:
ai4gr@arrl.net



Nets and On-The-Air Activities

Net	Freq / PL	Day	Time
BRARC Net	146.640 MHz/ 91.5	Sunday	8:00 PM
Henderson County ARES Net	146.640 MHz / 91.5	Wednesday	8:30 PM
440 Rag Chew	442.225 MHz/107.2	Monday	9:00 PM
Red Cross Communicators	146.640 MHz/91.5	Sunday	9:00 PM
Mount Mitchell 6m Net	53.630 MHz/100	Friday	9:00 PM
QCWA Chapter 76	3.740 MHz (SSB)	Saturday	8:45 AM
Buncombe ARES Net	146.910 MHz/ 91.5	Wednesday	9:00 PM
Tarheel ARES Net	3.923 MHz (SSB)	Daily	7:30 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
6600 Net	145.190 MHz	Saturday	9:00 PM
Blue Ridge Traffic (SC)	146.610 MHz	Daily	9:00 PM
Mount Pisgah 220 Net	224.260 MHz	Sunday	9:00 PM
Mount Mitchell 220 Net	224.540 MHz	Monday	8:00 PM
NC Morning Net	3.926 MHz (SSB)	Daily	7:45 AM
Oasis Shrine Net	145.190 MHz	Sunday	9:00 PM
SATERN Net	14.265 MHz	Daily	10:00 AM
NC Evening Net	3.923 MHz (SSB)	Daily	6:30 PM
Carolinas Slow Net	3.571 MHz (CW 5-8 wpm)	Daily	8:00 PM
Carolinas Net (Late)	3.573 MHz (CW 15-18 wpm)	Daily	10:00 PM
Carolinas Net (Early)	3.573 MHz (CW 20-22 wpm)	Daily	7:00 PM

If this information has changed, please contact Michael at ai4gr@arrl.net.



Club Meeting Tuesday
 July 7th, 7:00 pm
 Stoney Mountain Activity Center



Subsequent club meeting
 August 4, 2009 7:00 pm
 Stoney Mountain Activity Center



Henderson County ARES
 Training Session
 Fourth Monday of month
 Etowah Lions Club, 7pm

