



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



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

Message from the President, Danny (NA4X)

The Prez Says...

This is an exciting weekend. Our shack is up and operational! Thank you Michael, Ronnie and Steve for your help in getting things cleaned up and organized. We are going to be on the air this weekend on the ARRL Sweepstakes. Our goal is a clean sweep of all the states and Canada. As the weather gets cold now is the time to be on your radios. The conditions are better and it is too cold to be outside anyway. Also, don't forget our Christmas dinner on December 2nd at Twin Dragons. We have a lot of new people this year and this is a time for us to get to meet your families so come on out at 6:00. See you on the air!

73's

Danny (NA4X)

Minutes from November 4, 2014

Meeting called to order by President Rector (NA4X) at 7:00 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

In Attendance: There were 21 members and three guests in attendance.

General Business

The minutes were approved from the October meeting along with the October Treasurer's Report.

Treasurer's Report



October 1 - October 30, 2014

Balance as of 9/30/14	\$1,195.30
Plus: Dep: 10/8/14 -50/50	\$ 22.00
Total Income	\$ 22.00
Sub-Total	\$ 1,217.30
Less: Exp: (none)	\$ 0.00
Total Expense	\$ 0.00
 BALANCE AS OF 10/31/14	 \$1,217.30

New Business

Election of Officers

The following officers for 2015 were elected by nominations from the floor and by unanimous vote of the members present:

- President, Danny Rector, NA4X
- Vice President, Stan Frady, N1BBS
- Secretary, Doug Davis, KJ4WWN
- Treasurer, Steve Smith, KC5F

Sign-up Sheets

Sign-up sheets were circulated for the *November Sweepstakes*, and Fletcher and Hendersonville Christmas Parades.

Announcements

- Michael, (AI4GR), will send email requesting help with work on the new shack.
- John, (N9JZX), reported that the SET of Saturday November 1st was successful.
- Danny announced the meeting of December 2nd will be the annual Christmas dinner. It will be held at the *Twin Dragons* restaurant beginning 6:00 PM.

BRARC Tops Its Record

Remember the NC QSO Party last February? We had no club shack and worked from a bare basement using a borrowed rig. However, we made 293 QSOs, which was a new record for the club, easily topping our previous high of 267 QSOs in 2012.

Our 94 multipliers were only 2 short of a new record. But when they were combined with bonus points for reaching certain designated stations we scored 55,284 points. This score is also a record for the club.

Let's not get too heady about this, though. We came in 5th of 11 clubs in the phone category. So we still have a climb to rise up the ranks.

Formal Presentation

Dean, (K2JB), presented an interesting and informative description of the *Summits On the Air (SOTA)* program. He demonstrated the radio equipment that is needed, all of which must be carried to the operating site on the activated summit. Details of the program may be found at www.sota.org.uk and www.sotawatch.org.

50/50 Drawing

The 50-50 drawing was won by Bob, (N1DAY)! Congratulations!

Calendar of Events

Here are some notable dates to be aware of:

Date	Description
November 15, 2014	North Carolina QSO Party at the shack. For contest details, visit www.arrl.org/sweepstakes
December 2, 2014	BRARC Christmas Party. Venue is at the Twin Dragons in Brevard, NC. Starts at 6:00 PM.
December 7, 2014	Hendersonville Christmas Parade. Volunteers needed. Contact Danny (NA4X).
December 13, 2014	Fletcher Christmas Parade. Contact Dick Smith (W4RSS) for details.

Meeting Adjourned at: 8:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Michael, AI4GR

Items for Sale or Wanted

For Sale

Yaesu FT-1900 2M radio. Four months old. Original box, mic, mounting brackets, manual, still under warranty. Also includes *RT Systems* programming software & cable. Asking \$150. Contact Doug, KJ4WWN, 828-685-1291.

For Sale:

Hexbeam by K4KIO. It's about a year old and has been outside most of that time. It appears to be in good condition. It has the 20M, 15M and 6M options. Contact: <http://www.k4kio.com/> Asking \$300. Paul Alexander, K5LZT, 828-697-1732.

Popular Ham Radio Nets

Name	Frequency/Tone	Day/Days AM/PM (EST)
BRARC Net (W4YK)	146.640 MHz/ T 91.5	Sunday 8:00 PM
Henderson County ARES Net	146.640 MHz / T 91.5	Wednesday 8:30 PM
Oasis Shrine Net	145.190 MHz	Sunday 9:00 PM
Blue Ridge Traffic (SC)	146.610 MHz	Daily 9:00 PM
6600 Net	145.190 MHz	Saturday 9:00 PM
Good Morning Net	146.760 MHz	M-W-F 9:00 AM
WCARS Information Net	146.910 MHz/ T 91.5	Monday 9:00 PM
Buncombe ARES Net	146.910 MHz/ T 91.5	Wednesday 9:00 PM
Transylvania ARC Net	147.135 MHz	Thursday 8:00 PM
WCARS Simplex Net	147.525 MHz	Tuesday 8:30 PM
Mount Pisgah 220 Net	224.260 MHz	Sunday 9:00 PM
Mount Mitchell 220 Net	224.540 MHz	Monday 8:00 PM
Mount Pisgah 220 Thursday Net	224.260 MHz	Thursday 8:00 PM
Hit and Bounce Net (CW)	7.042 MHz	Daily 8:30 AM
K4UUQ Morning Net	7.225.5 MHz (SSB)	Mon-Sat 7:00 AM
Carolinas Slow Net	3.571 MHz (CW 5-8 wpm)	Daily 8:00 PM
Carolinas Net (Early)	3.573 MHz (CW 20-22 wpm)	Daily 7:00 PM
Carolinas Net (Late)	3.573 MHz (CW 15-18 wpm)	Daily 10:00 PM
QCWA Chapter 76	3.740 MHz (SSB)	Saturday 8:45 AM
NC Evening Net	3.923 MHz (SSB)	Daily 6:30 PM

Tarheel ARES Net	3.923 MHz (SSB)	Daily 7:30 PM
NC Morning Net	3.927 MHz (SSB)	Daily 7:45 AM
SATERN Net	14.265 MHz	Daily 10:00 AM
BRARC Rag Chew	28.350 MHz	Sunday after the 146.640 Net
Friday 6 Meter Rag Chew	53.130 MHz/ T 100	Friday 8:00 PM

Club Information

Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club (BRARC)

One of the key benefits of joining or having a ham radio club in your community is to link-up with like-minded people who share similar interests. Radio operators come from all walks of life. Some are students, teachers, pilots, technicians, police officers, doctors, executives, retired military, engineers, you name it.

The *Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club* is all of these things. Another key benefit it that they give-back in many ways back to their community. Amateur radio operators at BRARC donate time and equipment to participate with the *Department of Emergency Management*, the *Red Cross*, and *FEMA*. Radio operators practice using their equipment without power from the grid. So during REAL emergencies they can supply the necessary communication to first responders so they can provide help to those who need it. *Hurricane Sandy* was a perfect example. Ham radio operators helped FEMA direct needed supplies and medical attention.

The BRARC also provides volunteer community support in a variety of community activities including, parades including the 4th of July, and Christmas parades, walk-a-thons, bike-a-thons, horse riding events at the Biltmore Estates, and the Fletcher Flier.

The *Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club* also provides daily and weekly forums via what they call "*Nets*." You don't need a ham license to listen to a net - just a radio. These forums include informal sessions or "*rag chews*" that discuss local events or just about any topic.

Blue Ridge Echo Submissions

If you have timely information that you would like to publish in the Echo, all submissions must be received by the first 6-7 days of each month in order to meet publication deadlines. Please send your copy to Doug (KJ4WWN) at themtns@yahoo.com.

Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club Officers

Title	Name	Call Sign	Phone	Email
President	Danny Rector	NA4X	828-329-8863	rectordl@bellsouth.net
Vice President	Bill Gaede	KK4VCQ		rattletree7@gmail.com
Treasurer & Membership	Steve Smith	KC5F	828-697-6388	kc5f@arrl.net
Secretary	Doug Davis	KJ4WWN	828-685-1291	themtns@yahoo.com
Member @ Large	Stan Frady	N1BBS	910-366-2133	skfrady@gmail.com
Web & Testing	Dick Smith	W4RSS	828-687-9531	w4rss@att.net