



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...

Winter time seems to be here even though we have not seen any snow. The air ways are lighting up with DX-peditions and contests. Instead of sitting in the lazy boy chair under a blanket, how about going into the shack and firing up the radio? You will find conditions to be very good without all the lightening crashes in your head sets. How about trying-out a contest or two with the club? It can be a lot of fun. Let us know if you would like to get on the radio at the shack sometime.

Danny, (NA4X)

Minutes from January 6, 2015

Meeting called to order by President Rector at 6:59 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Treasurer's Report from Steve Smith. Bank balance is \$1,146.49.

Danny suggested we allocate \$45.00 to sponsor one of the awards for the NC QSO party to be held in March. Duke moved and Howard seconded. Motion passed.

Upcoming Events and Contests:

February 14, 2015, Testing at Mountain Home Fire Dpartment. Contact Dick Smith for more info.

May 2, Biltmore Equestrian Event. Contact John Quinn, N9JZX, for more info.

June 7?, Fletcher Flyer, contact Danny Rector NA4X for more info.

Programs:

- a. Danny presented a short video on DXing and DXpeditions.
- b. Dick presented a short presentation on UTC time, time zones and daylight savings time.

Discussion followed regarding Field Day which will be upon us sooner than we think. One suggestion was to seek out one individual to coordinate the activities with several persons serving to chair various responsibilities having to do with the event. It was generally agreed that Jackson Park would, once again, be the Field Day location.

No 50-50 drawing tonight.

Meeting adjourned at 7:59 PM by unanimous vote.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dick Smith (W4RSS) acting Secretary.



Treasurer's Report

BRARC Treasurer's Report

December 1 – December 31, 2014

Balance as of 11/30/14	\$1,146.49
Plus: Dep: (none)	\$0.00
Total Income	\$0.00
Sub-Total	\$1,146.49
Less: Exp: (none)	\$0.00
Total Expense	\$0.00
BALANCE AS OF 11/30/14	\$1,146.49

Note: 4 checks for 2015 dues of \$20 each held for January deposit

New Business

Announcements

This Saturday there is an interesting and easy contest, the North American QSO Party. It runs from 1:00 PM Saturday to 1:00 AM Sunday, and you may operate 10 of the 12 hours. It's SSB.

Participants are limited to 100w, with no spotting assistance. Just contact as many NA stations as you can. The exchange is your name and state. This is a great contest if you are new to contesting. It also will get you a good way toward a Worked All States award.

Rules at www.ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf.

Possibilities:

1. Operate from your home station as a single-op.
2. If there is interest, I'll open the shack and set up the club's rig. The afternoon hours are best for me. Let me know if you would like to learn or practice contesting for an hour or so.
3. Enter as a BRARC team operating from home stations. I must enter the 5 team members before the contest begins. There is no distance limitation on location of team members (Brandy, Tom, take note).

Let me know if you are interested in 2 or 3.

Michael, AI4GR
891-8970

Formal Presentation

Danny (NA4X) gave a video presentation on DXing and DXpeditions.

Dick (W4RSS) gave a short presentation on UTC time, time zones and daylight savings time.

50/50 Drawing

There was no drawing.

Calendar of Events

Here are some notable dates to be aware of:

Date	Description
Tuesday, February 3, 2015	BRARC Meeting. Held at Jackson Park. Time 7:00 PM. In the case of inclement weather on a meeting night, we follow the Blue Ridge College evening schedule. When Blue Ridge is closed, we do not have a meeting.
Saturday, February 14, 2015	Testing. Mountain Home Fire Department. Contact Dick Smith (W4RSS) for more information.
Saturday, May 2, 2015	Biltmore Equestrian Event. Contact John Quinn, (N9JZX), for more information.
Sunday, June 7, 2015	Fletcher Flyer. Contact Danny (NA4X) for details.

Announcements

Dues

The 2015 dues for the *Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club* are \$20 and are now payable. Either send a check made out to "BRARC" or bring a check or cash to the January 6th meeting. Thanks!

- Steve Smith, KC5F, BRARC Treasurer
607 E Blue Ridge Rd
East Flat Rock NC 28726-2205

Sweepstakes Wrap-Up

Items for Sale or Wanted

For Sale

35 amp power supply. Qualifies as a boat anchor. Originally an NCR power supply for groups of cash registers. Reworked to provide 12 volts at 30 amps continuous duty.

Available for the ridiculously low price of \$25.00. Contact Dick Smith at w4rss@radioclub.org if interested.

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