



---

# 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...

*Field Day* is just around the corner on June 27th and 28th. I have been in contact with a number of new people lately that have expressed interest in ham radio. I am reminded that when *Field Day* comes around we need to be sure to go out of our way to welcome visitors. *Field Day* is about people. It is a time to showcase our hobby and our abilities to communicate with not only those on the air but also with those that visit. It is important that we not use "*ham jargon*" all the time. Visitors new to ham radio are not going to have a idea what a '*shack*' is or what '*QSL*' means. They are not going to understand '*20 meters*' or what a '*yagi*' is. That is OK. Use as plain a language as you can think of, and then just show them what a '*yagi*' is and what '*20 meters*' is. The most important rule of all is: **Have Fun!** Let's get them on the air!

Danny (NA4X)

## Minutes from June 2, 2015

Meeting called to order by Danny Rector (NA4X) at 7:07 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**In Attendance:** 22 people signed the attendance sheet.

**Visitors:** There were two visitors present; Zachary White, and Wayne Arcuri.

### Business

The May minutes and *Treasurer's Report* were approved by the membership.

### Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer Steve (KC5F) reported that we have a current balance of \$ 1,337.22.

## Public Events

- **Fletcher Flyer** - The *Fletcher Flyer* was held on Sunday, June 7, 2015. Thanks for all of your support.

## Announcements

- **Tent for Purchase** – Danny (NA4X) announced that the club had not yet purchased the approved new tent. He will get it for Field Day for \$200. Motion was given and seconded by Gary (KW4GM) and Duke (W4DK). The motion carried.
- **911 Center** Duke (W4DK) reported that the *911 Center* has a website that you can register your residence in case of emergencies. You can list important details as to number of people, number of bedrooms, shut-offs, fuel storage, etc.
- **Skywarn** – John Quinn (N9JZX) reported the details of the Skywarn class. It is scheduled for Saturday August 15, 2015 starting at 10:00 AM to 12:00, Lunch break, then class from 1:00 to 3:00 PM. Meeting place is at 708 Grove Street in classroom 101.
- **Technician Class** – Phil (N4HF) reported that there will be a class at the *Skyland Fire Department* starting on Thursday, July 9, 2015 offered by the *Roadshow Radio Cub*. It will run 7-8 weeks, one night a week. Course fee is \$60, which includes the ARRL license manual, the test fee, and course materials. Contact Bill (N4OOC) at N4OOC@arrl.net, 828-243-0888.
- **Raffle Tickets** – *Roadshow Radio Cub* raffle tickets are still available for **three** prizes! A KX3 radio and tuner, a K3S radio and tuner, and a Yaesu HT (no model specified). Winning ticket and second place winners choose the prize they want - respectively. Contact Phil (N4HF).
- **Field Day Messages** – We earn 10 bonus points for each message sent via radio during Field Day. Duke, (W4DK), will send the messages using 2M digital mode, but you must email him your message beforehand. He needs at least 10. Please email him radio messages that consist of the following details: Name, Email Address, Content of the email restricted to 25 words or less. Duke will use these messages during *Field Day* to score points for the club.

### Sample Message:

BT

I am in Jackson Park and having fun at Field Day XRAY Join us next year

BT

Uncle Joe, W4YK

- **Field Day Dinner** – Dinner starts at 5:00 PM. We need members to bring POT-LUCK desserts, salads, and side dishes. The BRARC club will provide all the rest.
- **13 Colonies Event:** Here is an interesting radio opportunity for July 4th weekend. Contact participating stations in each of the original 13 colonies to win an colorful

certificate. The colony stations will operate from Tuesday, June 30, 9:00 AM Eastern (1300 UTC) until Sunday Night, July 5th, 00:00 (Midnight) Eastern (0400 UTC July 6th). Info on 13 Colonies can be found at : <http://www.13colonies.info/>

**INDEPENDENCE WEEK - 13 COLONIES SPECIAL EVENT**

*Fourth Of July Week-2015*



Gen George Washington  
K2A/NY



James Madison  
K2E/DE



Benjamin Franklin  
K2G/GA



John Adams  
K2J/NJ



FOUNDERS AND PATRIOTS OF THE REPUBLIC



Patrick Henry  
K2B/VA



Alexander Hamilton  
K2E/MD



Crispus Attucks  
K2H/MA



Capt John Paul Jones  
K2J/NC

This Is To Certify That *ARR: **KU2US*** Participated In This 4th Of July Week Celebration Honoring The Original 13 Colonies And The Independence Of Our Nation In 1776.



CONTACTS



WASPEN



U.S. MILITARY VET.



Paul Ignore  
K2M/PA



Thomas Jefferson  
K2C/RI



CLEAN SWEEP

KEN VILLONE-KU2US  
EVENT MANAGER: *Ken Villone*



Gen Nathaniel Greene  
K2L/SC



Betty Ross  
K2D/CT

**Formal Presentation**

The formal presentation was given by David Day (N1DAY) on *Magnetic Loop Antennas*. It was enjoyed by all. David will demonstrate the use if this antenna on *Field Day*.

**50/50 Drawing**

There was no drawing.

Meeting adjourned at 8:37 PM by vote.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Doug Davis (KJ4WWN) Secretary.

# Treasurer's Report



## BRARC Treasurer's Report May 1 - May 31, 2015

Balance as of 04/30/15	\$1,230.22
Plus: Dep: Dues x 5	\$100.00
May meeting 50/50	\$7.00
Total Income	\$107.00
Sub-Total	\$1,337.22
Less: Exp: (none)	\$0.00
Total Expense	\$0.00
 BALANCE AS OF 05/31/15;	 \$1,337.22

## Calendar of Events

Here are some notable dates to be aware of:

Date	Description
<b>Saturday, June 27 - Sunday, 28, 2015</b>	<b>Field Day</b> - Breakfast is scheduled for Friday 8:00 AM at the Mustang Café in Hendersonville.
<b>July 4<sup>th</sup> Weekend</b>	<b>13 Colonies Event</b> - See details at the following: <a href="http://www.13colonies.info/">http://www.13colonies.info/</a>
<b>Tuesday, July 7, 2015</b>	<b>BRARC Meeting.</b> Held at <i>Jackson Park</i> . Time 7:00 PM. In the case of inclement weather on a meeting night, we follow the <i>Blue Ridge College</i> evening schedule. When <i>Blue Ridge College</i> is closed, we do not have a meeting.
<b>Saturday, July 25, 2015</b>	<b>WCARS Hamfest.</b> Details will follow.
<b>Monday, September 7, 2015</b>	<b>Tour de Apple</b> - Four routes! Information: <a href="http://tourdapple.com">tourdapple.com</a> . Registration is at: <a href="http://active.com">active.com</a> . Volunteers needed. Bring your HTs and fresh batteries.

**Friday, September  
25, 2015 to Saturday  
September 26, 2015**

**W4DXCC DX and Contest Convention -**  
W4DXCC is a DX and Contest Convention held  
in Pigeon Forge, TN and it's our 11th year

## New Business

### Announcements

Phil (N4HF) was selling *Roadshow Radio Cub* raffle tickets at our meeting. They hope to sell them all at the *Dayton HamFest*. They use the monies raised to help defray their expenses at the State Fair demonstrations.

**Vacuum Tube Class? – Open Letter:** I'm a part-time student at AB Tech in the Electronics curriculum. One of my instructors suggested to me that I see if there is any interest in having a continuing education course on vacuum tubes, to be taught at AB Tech by one of the semi-retired adjuncts. I'm not looking for commitment to register now for the class, just gauging the level of interest by mentioning it at various ham clubs. I anticipate it will be 2 hours one night per week, for 6-8 weeks. Most Continuing Education courses required 10-12 students before it is offered, and the cost is generally around \$55. For this course, a knowledge of basic amplifier function/design is required.

\*\*\*\*\*

Those interested can contact Phil (N4HF) by email at, [n4hf@arrl.net](mailto:n4hf@arrl.net). Maybe *Blue Ridge Tech* could offer such a course, if there was enough interest and you could help find an instructor in that area, like Phil (W9IXX) or Harold (W4ZCB), both of whom cut their electronics teeth on tubes. I have no contacts at Blue Ridge Tech though..maybe someone else in BRARC does. Any takers? Phil (N4HF)

**Field Day Update from Michael (AI4GR)** - The current schedule for operations on *Field Day* is now available. Look it over and let me know if you would like any changes (including additions).

We will also have a 6M station for SSB operation. You can also log contacts for the operators and be *Control Operator* at the GOTA station.

Not shown on the schedule is the tutorial at 1:00 PM Saturday. David (N1DAY), will describe the digital set-up we are using, giving you the step-by-step on how to make and log a contact. Please note that we have plenty of open time-slots for digital operations. So sign-up now before they are gone.

We will start raising antennas at 5:00 PM on Friday evening 6/26/15. Come and help.

Email or call me (891-8970) if any questions.  
Michael, (AI4GR).

**W4DXCC DX and Contest Convention** - *W4DXCC is a DX and Contest Convention held in Pigeon Forge, TN and it's our 11th year. If you're a DXer, contester or just an active ham you should attend this year. (See Calendar of Events)*

The attendees enjoy the fellowship of other hams and share their experiences. They meet old friends and make new ones. Once you attend you will be back every year. Representatives from Top equipment manufacturers will be on hand to demo new equipment and answer your questions one-on-one.

This will be the most informative and relaxed DX and contest convention you have ever attended - not to mention the many great prize drawings.

#### *Ham Radio Bootcamp*

This year convention attendees can attend a day-long *Ham Radio Bootcamp* training session on Friday. Experienced hams teach new and old hams about building shacks and antennas, learn how to operate better while DXing and contesting. There is something for every ham at this convention.

#### *Reservations*

- 1) Call the *Mainstay Convention Hotel* at 865-428-8350 to book your room and be sure to ask for **SEDCO** special rates
  
- 2) Call *Rosie KA4S* at 865-898-2279 for Convention and Banquet tickets.

For more details visit us at - [www.W4DXCC.com](http://www.W4DXCC.com)

Regards & 73s,  
Dave Anderson (K4SV).

## **Items for Sale or Wanted**

No items were listed.

## 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
Anderson Radio Club Net	146.790 MHz	Daily 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
Mount Spivey 220 Net	224.600/ T 98.4	Wednesday 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
6 Meter Rag Chew	53.130 MHz/ T 100	Friday 9:00 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](mailto:themtns@yahoo.com).

### **Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club Officers**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Call Sign</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Email</b>
President	Danny Rector	NA4X	828-329-8863	rectordl@bellsouth.net
Vice President	Bill Gaede	KK4VCQ	None	rattletree7@gmail.com
Treas./Member.	Steve Smith	KC5F	828-697-6388	kc5f@arrl.net
Secretary	Doug Davis	KJ4WWN	828-685-1291	themtns@yahoo.com
Member @ Large	David Day	N1DAY	203-450-0053	davidlday@yahoo.com
Member @ Large	Michael Parente	AI4GR	828-891-8970	parentemk@bellsouth.net
Web & Testing	Dick Smith	W4RSS	828-687-9531	w4rss@att.net