



Happy New Year!

Message From the President

The Prez Says...

Winter time has come to the mountains and gone just as fast it came. I expect we are in for an interesting cycle of weather this winter. This reminds me how it seems to be with the HF bands right now. Openings and propagation comes and goes it seems almost as fast.

David did a great presentation on the current state of SDR radios and demoed the SDRplay RSP1 SDR receiver at our last meeting. This device is reviewed in the February QST issue.

For the contest we have this month at the shack, we are going to be using the IC-7300 radio in place of the club's IC-7000 or IC-718 radios. The IC-7000 will be used as a backup rig for the contest. This will allow those who come out and participate a chance to use this Direct Sampling SDR HF radio. We need operators and we need people to help us log. Contact Danny if you are interested.

We will be talking about how you can use the different VHF/UHF digital modes to talk around the world thanks to an internet connection in our February meeting. I look forward to seeing everyone on the 7th.

73,
Stan Frady (N1BBS)

Minutes from January 3, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Stan Frady (N1BBS) at 7:04 PM followed by the Pledge of Alligance.

In Attendance

There were 19 people who signed the attendance sheet.

Visitors

We had 4 guests - Jon (W4XNC), John (KM4ZMV), Tom WOOPF, Nick (K9???)

Club Business

Treasurer's Report & Meeting Miniutes were approved by the membership.

We were reminded by Stan (N1BBS) that club dues (\$20 anually) are due this month. Please send payments to Steve Smith (KC5F) or contact him at: [http://KC5F@ARRL.NET](mailto:KC5F@ARRL.NET)

Treasurer's Report

December 1 – December 31, 2016

Balance as of 11/30/16	\$1,806.61
Plus: Dep: (none)	\$0.00
Total Income	\$0.00
Sub-Total	\$1,806.61
Less: Exp: (none)	\$0.00
Total Expense	\$0.00
BALANCE AS OF 12/31/16	\$1,806.61

New Business

There was a motion to purchase the attenuator being sold by Ronnie (K2SST). It was so moved, seconded, and approved.

Announcements

Ham Radio Delux (HRD) Controversy

HRD was a free software program used for making digital transmissions using your computer, your HF radio and a sound card like Signalink. A few years ago it was bought and changed to a subscription service. Since then there has been a political controversy created by the owner of the software and the Ham Community.

Please see the links below for all the information on this controversy. BRARC members can decide what they want about this issue. The link below contains time line and further details.

https://www.reddit.com/r/amateurradio/comments/5jf4i2/ham_radio_deluxe_mega_thread/

Software Defined Radio (SDR)

For a comparison of the *SDRplay RSP1, RSP2 and RSP2pro*, please see the following link:

<http://www.rtl-sdr.com/sdrplay-rsp2-release-announcement-and-review/>

For a comparison of the 3 of the most popular SDR receivers (1 is a transceiver), please see the following link:

<http://www.rtl-sdr.com/review-airspy-vs-sdrplay-rsp-vs-hackrf/>

National Parks on the Air (NPOTA)

NPOTA was deemed a huge success in celebrating the National Parks Service celebrate thier 100 year anniversary. If you would like to learn more or participate follow this liink.

<http://www.arrl.org/NPOTA>

Henderson County ARES Nets & Meetings

All amateur radio operators are welcome. The *Henderson County ARES/RACES Administrative and Training Net* meets on the air every Wednesday night at 9:00 PM using the local 146.640/T 91.5 MHZ FM repeater located on Bearwallow Mountain in Northeast Henderson County.

BRARC Repeater

The club 2 Meter repeater [146.640 MHZ T/91.5] has had some difficulty sending/receiving transmissions lately. It will soon be repaired by its owner Martin (W4FOT). Please bear with it.

Current Contests

There are two contests this month as follows:

1. **North American QSO Party** - Starts January 21, 2017 and ends January 22, 2017. Duration 12 hours. 1:00 PM to 1:00 AM. Contact Danny (NA4X) if you want to join him in the Club Shack. Also, does anyone have an NVIS antenna that they can use for this contest?
2. **DX North America** - Starts January 7, 2017. Ends January 21, 2017. This is a listening only contest. For details contact Stan (N1BBS).

WCARS Training Session

There will be a *Technicians Training Class* starting on Tuesday, February 14th for six weeks. The class meets every Tuesday and Thursday on the 3rd floor of the Elm Building at the AB Tech campus. Time: 6:00 PM to 9:00 pm each night. Exam offered for \$10 the last night class meets. Questions? Contact Norman (N4NH) 828-253-1192 or <http://N4NH@arrl.net>.

Formal Presentation

The formal presentation was given by David Day (N1DAY) and Stan (N1BBS) on Software Defined Radio. For more details follow this link [<http://WEBSDR.ORG>]. It was very comprehensive and enjoyed by all.

50/50 Drawing

The drawing was won by Jon Monigold (W4XNC).

Meeting Ended

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Doug Davis (KJ4WWN).

Calendar of Events

Here are some notable dates upcoming:

Date	Description
February 7, 2017	Club meeting - Place: Grove Street, Jackson Park, Hendersonville. Time: 7:00 PM
January 21 to 22, 2017	North American QSO Party - Place: Radio Shack. 1:00 PM to 1:00 AM. Contact Danny (NA4X) http://rectordl@bellsouth.net
January 7 to 21, 2017	DX North America - Listening only. Contact Stan (N1BBS) http://skfrady@gmail.com
February 14, 2017	Technical Training Class - Place: 3rd floor of the <i>Elm Building</i> at the <i>AB Tech</i> campus. Contact: Norman (N4NH) 828-253-1192, http://N4NH@ARRL.NET for more information.

For Sale

There are 3 items item for sale this month, as follows:

1) Yaesu Ft 1802 in good working condition, programmed for local repeaters. The Mic cord is exposed but works OK. It should be replaced. I used it in my old car but I no longer have a use for it. Asking \$75.00 (manual included). Contact Ronnie; <http://ronk2sst@bellsouth.net>

2) Realistic Programmable Scanner PRO 2004 AM, FM, NFM, WFM, 25 TO 520 MHz, 760 TO 1300 MHz. Modified to go up to 900 MHz. It comes with inside antenna, or it can be hooked up to an outside antenna. Asking \$25.00 with Manual. Contact Ronnie; <http://ronk2sst@bellsouth.net>

3) AnyTone , model AT-D858, DMR HT. I bought new for \$135.00 at the Charlotte Hamfest last year. It's in mint condition. Never really used it. Quite frankly, I am just not a big fan of DMR technology. Asking only \$100.00 or best offer. Thanks. Contact Bob Felt: 828-696-4103 cell/txt 703-915-2796.



Popular Ham Radio Nets

<u>Name</u>	<u>Freq/Tone</u>	<u>Day/Time</u>
<i><u>FM Nets</u></i>		
BRARC Net (W4YK)	146.640 MHz / T91.5	Sunday 8:00 PM
Henderson County ARES Net	146.640 MHz / T91.5	Wednesday 9:00 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/T91.5	Monday 9:00 PM
Buncombe ARES Net	146.910 MHz / T91.5	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
6 Meter Rag Chew	53.130 MHz/T 100	Friday 9:00 PM

CW Nets

Hit and Bounce Net	7.042 MHz (CW)	Daily 8:30 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

HF Nets

K4UUQ Morning Net	7.225.5 MHz (SSB)	Mon-Sat 7:00 AM
QCWA Chapter 76	3.636 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
Get Up and Go Net	28.350/28.360 MHz	Sunday 9:00 PM
SATURN Net	14.265 MHz (SSB)	Daily 10:00 AM

Simplex Nets

2 Meter Simplex Net	146.640 / 146.580 Simplex	Thursday 9:00 PM
6 Meter Simplex Net	52.5700 MHz FM	Thursday 9:00 PM
10 Meter Simplex Net	28.420 MHz	Thursday 9:00 PM
440 Simplex Net	446.000 MHz	Thursday 9:00 PM

Digital Mobil Radio Nets

DMR Net	WNC TalkGroup	Thursday 8:30 PM
DMR Net	TAC310 TalkGroup	Sunday 8:00 PM

Club Information

Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club (BRARC) 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.

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, 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	Stan Frady	N1BBS	910-366-133	http://skfrady@gmail.com
Vice President	James Reid	KK4JFO	828-698-3609	http://jsreed@bellsouth.net
Treasure/Membership	Steve Smith	KC5F	489-6637	http://kc5f@arrl.net
Secretary	Doug Davis	KJ4WWN	828-685-1291	http://themtns@yahoo.com
Member@Large	David Day	N1DAY	203-450-0053	http://davidlday@yahoo.com
Public Info/Testing	Dick Smith	W4RSS	828-687-9531	http://w4rss@att.net

1/14/2017