



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



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

### **The PREZ Says**

It was great to see so many new faces at BRARC's February meeting. I hope everyone enjoyed the presentation by Doug Allen (K4LY) on VHF propagation. For our March meeting Philip Jenkins (N4HF) will be giving a presentation on *AMSAT and Satellite Communications*. If you haven't tried this mode of operation, it is fairly easy to get started. Please plan on attending the March meeting – you will not be disappointed.

Also, our experiment with remote Internet attendance has proven to be a hit. Starting with the March meeting, we will be transitioning from Teamviewer to the Zoom platform, as this will allow more people to remotely attend our meetings. For complete information on setting up Zoom on your computer, please see the instructional page on this topic at our website ([radioclub.org](http://radioclub.org)),

Finally, we have started a monthly presentation activity at our meetings called "*Odds and Ends*". I have observed that many BRARC members are doing a lot of things to make life in their shacks easier and are coming up with solutions to problems that are often quite unique. Unfortunately, many of these innovation discussions only take place between one or two members after meetings.



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The *Odds and Ends* activity is designed to give everyone a couple of minutes to talk about their innovations and discoveries so that people with similar needs know who to follow up with after the meeting. These presentations are intended to be ONLY A MINUTE OR TWO long . If you need more time, we will schedule your presentation as the monthly presentation topic. If you would like to participate in the Odds and Ends activity, just let me know before the meeting, and if applicable, bring what you have developed for show and tell.

73s  
David Day (N1DAY/WI2XUF)

## Minutes from February 6, 2017

### In Attendance

There were 22 people who signed the attendance sheet.

### Visitors

There was 7 visitors, as follows: Rick Grauer (WA3YBG), George Reed (KN4CBU), John Thompson, Junior Hoppe, Christian Clowson, Eden Clowson, Doug Allen (K4LY).

### Club Business

A motion was passed and seconded to accept the minutes of last month’s meeting and they were approved.

There was a motion to accept last month’s Treasurer’s Report. It was also approved by a club vote of the membership.

### BRARC Treasurer’s Report

BRARC Treasurer’s Report

January 1 – January 31, 2018	
Balance as of 12/31/17	\$2,505.12
Plus: Dep: 2018 dues x2	\$40.00
Total Income	\$40.00
Sub-Total	\$2,545.12
Less: Exp: (none)	\$0.00
Total Expense	\$0.00
BALANCE AS OF 01/31/18	\$2,545.12



# Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club

## Club Annual Fees

*Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club* (BRARC-W4YK) fees (\$20.00) are due once again. Send your payments to Steve Smith KC5F or contact him at: [kc5f@arrl.net](mailto:kc5f@arrl.net)

Please, please remember to send-in your dues. Send your payments to:

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

## Announcements

### New Antennas

Recently Danny (NA4X) put up the new tripod, mast, and 220 J-pole antenna and routed down the feedline. I took over and installed cable connector, window feed through, jumper cable, grounding, rig, and power connector.

Danny also re-routed our window line feeds to prevent cross coupling.

We now have a COMPLETE AND TESTED 220Mhz (1.25 M) rig in the shack for all to use and enjoy.

Many thanks to him!

ps. James (KK4JFO) and Danny appear to have had a very successful NAQSO weekend!

73s Carl (KW4EO)

### Satellites to Receive/Transmit

Next month Phil (N4HF) will give a presentation on *AMSAT and Satellite Communications*. All you need is a 2 Meter HT to receive satellite transmissions. Phil will demonstrate how to communicate with the Space Station at this meeting. Here are some notable web resources:

<https://www.amsat.org/other-events/>

<http://www.amsat.org/station-and-operating-hints/>

<http://www.work-sat.com/Home.html>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJDdMdjxwFsjdzhXQFHV2g>

Don't miss this presentation. You'll learn just how easy this is and what fun you can have with it.

### ARRES

John Quinn (N9JZX) announced there will be a communications test with five local fire stations, as follows:



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- Edneyville
- Bat Cave
- Green River
- Fletcher
- Etowah

If you would like to participate, contact [John](#). Dates are being firmed-up and will be announced soon.

### Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club Happenings

A lot has been happening lately at BRARC. Here is what you need to know...

- Our website has been updated ([radioclub.org](http://radioclub.org)), and you will find a section in the menu labeled "POSTS". Please check there routinely. Items of interest to the club come up occasionally between issues of our newsletter and the *POSTS* section will help keep you up to date on club happenings.
- We've had two really good presentations at the club meetings. Phil Jenkins will be updating us on satellite amateur radio at the March meeting. It is going to be a good one so please try to attend. However...
- Carl Stover (KW4EO) has done a wonderful job at organizing the shack, and he is routinely running classes out of the shack on selected Thursday evenings. The next class will be this Thursday at 6:00 PM. The topic is better ways to attach PL259's to coax. His sessions are very practical, so please try to attend.
- The club is trying to up our game on contests. Danny Rector runs events and contesting. If you would like to learn more or help out, email him at [record@bellsouth.net](mailto:record@bellsouth.net).
- If there is anything I can do to help facilitate making BRARC a club that you would like to invite fellow HAMS and non-hams to join, please let me know. Help me to get the word out about our club so that we can attract new members.

Thanks and 73  
David Day (N1DAY)

### HT Check-In Drawing

Doug (KJ4WWN) won the drawing for \$10 for checking-into the club meeting on the 146.640/91.5 repeater before the January meeting. There will be a drawing for each meeting for anyone using an HT to check-into the club meeting.



## Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club

### **FORMAL PRESENTATION**

There was a formal presentation given by Doug Allen (W2CAR) on VHF Propagation. It was highly informative and enjoyed by everyone.

### **50/50 Drawing**

The drawing was won by Dick Smith (W4RSS).

### **From The Shack**

One more "*Evening-in-the-Shack*" class coming up February 15<sup>th</sup>. This one is a hands-on class on installing the PL259 connector. There are lots of ways to do this – some good, some just OK, and others guaranteed to cause problems sooner or later. Come and understand why some ways are better/worse than others and then try various ways yourself. You are welcome to bring your own tools but all necessary tools will be available. There is no charge for this class or materials and you can bring any of your own cables you want to rework the connectors.

To encourage the use of the 2M HT, there has been a drawing with prize for those that check in to W4YK using the 146.640 MHZ/91.5 repeater before the monthly meeting. This coming month (March 6<sup>th</sup>) the prize will be a complete solar power system including panels/controller/battery/all cabling/lights.

**NOTE:** You must be a paid-up club member attending the meeting and check-in with HT to be entered for the drawing. Dig out that 'ole HT, charge 'er up, and join the fun.....got to play to win!

The shack now has a 220Mhz rig with J-pole antenna installed, tested, and fully operational! THANKS Danny for doing all the antenna work to get us on 220!

Upcoming SC/NC QSO party will be Saturday Feb 24 and Sunday Feb 25 from 10AM-8PM both days. B The shack will be open with three HF rigs ready to operate on pretty much any mode you desire. This is always lots of fun and will be a great way to test the abilities of our newer club shack equipment!

Call me anytime 7:00 AM – 10:00 PM - and do leave a message, I will call back!

Carl Stover (KW4EO)

828-771-6146 (H)

404-872-3969 (C)

### **Meeting Ended**

The meeting was formally adjourned at 8:42 PM.

Minutes submitted respectfully by Doug Davis (KJ4WWN).



## Calendar of Events

Here are some notable dates:

Date	Description
March 6, 2018	<b>BRARC Meeting;</b> Held at <i>Jackson Park</i> in Hendersonville, NC. Time 7:00 PM. In the case of inclement weather: We do NOT meet when <i>Blue Ridge College</i> is closed.  <b>Guest Speaker:</b> Phil Jenkins (NH4F) will give a presentation on <i>AMSAT and Satellite Communications</i> .
February 15, 2018	<b>How To Install PL 259 Connectors.</b> Time: 6:00 PM. Place: the shack.
February 18, 2018	<b>FT8 Digital Training;</b> Starting at 6:00 PM at the BRARC shack, we will be conducting a hands-on class to help our members put into practice the operating procedures for this mode of operation that were covered at the January meeting.
February 25, 2018	<b>SC/NC QSO Party:</b> Time; 10:00 AM to 8:00 PM. Three stations need operators. Please contact <a href="#">Danny</a> .

## For Sale

There were no items for sale this month.

## Popular Ham Radio Nets

### FM Nets

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
KI4ZEK Net	145.190 MHz	Thursday 8:30 PM
AmRRON CPN Preparedness	145.190 MHz	Wednesday 8:30 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



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Buncombe ARES Net	146.910 MHz / T91.5	Wednesday 9:00 PM
Transylvania ARC Net	147.135 MHz	Thursday 8:00 PM
Anderson Radio Club Net	146.790 MHz	Daily 8:30 PM
<b>6 Meter Net</b>		
6 Meter Net	53.130 MHz/T 100	Friday 9:00 PM
<b>220 NETS</b>		
Mount Pisgah 220 Net	224.260 MHz	Sunday 9:00 PM
Mount Pisgah 220 Thur Net	224.260 MHz	Thursday 8:00 PM
Mount Mitchell 220 Net	224.540 MHz	Monday 8:00 PM
Mount Spivey 220 Net	224.600/T 98.4	Wednesday 8:00 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
The American Preparedness Radio Network (TAPRN)	3.818 MHz or 7.24 MHz	Sundays 9:00 PM
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

80 Meter Simplex Net	3.843 MHz	Thursday 9:30 PM
WCARS Simplex Net	147.525 MHz	Tuesday 8:30 PM

## Digital Mobil Radio Nets

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



# Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club

## 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 (BRARC)* 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 (Federal Emergency Management Agency)*. 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 8 days of each month in order to meet publication deadlines. Please send your ASCII copy to Doug (KJ4WWN) at [themtns@yahoo.com](mailto:themtns@yahoo.com).

## Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club Officers

Title	Name	Call Sign	Phone	Email
President	David Day	N1DAY	203-450-0053	<a href="mailto:davidday@yahoo.com">davidday@yahoo.com</a>
Vice President	James Reed	KK4JFO	828-698-3609	<a href="mailto:jsreed@bellsouth.net">jsreed@bellsouth.net</a>
Treas./Member.	Steve Smith	KC5F	828-489-6637	<a href="mailto:kc5f@arrl.net">kc5f@arrl.net</a>
Secretary	Doug Davis	KJ4WWN	828-685-1291	<a href="mailto:themtns@yahoo.com">themtns@yahoo.com</a>
Member @ Large	Danny Rector	NA4X	828-698-3231	<a href="mailto:record@bellsouth.net">record@bellsouth.net</a>
Testing	Dick Smith	W4RSS	828-687-9531	<a href="mailto:w4rss@radioclub.org">w4rss@radioclub.org</a>
Shack Mgr. & Member @ Large	Carl Stover	KW4EO	828-771-6146	<a href="mailto:carl.stover@gmail.com">carl.stover@gmail.com</a>