



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



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

### The PREZ Says

So much is happening right now with our club that it is hard to know where to start. Again, I would like to thank Ken Gallagher (N2UK) for his recent donation of a beautiful Icom Radio that now resides in our shack. Our shack has been transformed into a top notch radio station courtesy of Carl Stover's (KW4EO) work and dedication. In the process, we discovered that we could use some hand tools with some life left in them. So if you have any kind of hand tools related to ham radio or small project construction that you are not using and would like to donate, please bring them to the next meeting.

At the last meeting we had a really good presentation by Philip Jenkins (N4HF) on satellite communications. Unfortunately, weather and fly-by timing did not work out with our planned demonstration of a QSO. So, stay tuned for a Thursday night demonstration of satellite contact procedures that will be announced on our website and weekly nets in the near future. Next month we have a presentation scheduled by Dave Anderson (K4SV) on *Dx Expeditions* that he has participated in at some of the most remote locations on earth. The slides alone are a good reason to come out to the next meeting.

Now that it is spring, I am sure that a number of our members are thinking about putting up new antennas or maintaining existing ones. In many cases, this takes us into wooded areas where poison ivy will grow in the summer. If you are doing any tree climbing or putting down radials, please remember that the roots and vines of poison ivy can still cause nasty allergic outbreaks. Be careful and take appropriate precautions to avoid the consequences of contact with this plant before the easily recognized leaves emerge.

I hope to see all of you at the next meeting. Between now and then, I hope that propagation is good for everyone for some remote contacts.

73s

David Day (N1DAY/WI2XUF)



# Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club

## Minutes from March 6, 2018

The meeting opened at 6:59 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance chaired by David Day (N1DAY) our club President.

### In Attendance

There were a total of 23 people who signed the attendance sheet.

### Visitors

We had a total of 3 guests, as follows: Charles Webb (KK4JIZ), John Johnson (KK4VYT), and Tony Knight (KK4FFE).

### 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

February 1 – February 28, 2018

Balance as of 01/31/18	\$2,545.12
Plus: Dep: 2018 dues x17, \$18 Jan 50/50, \$7 Feb 50/50	\$365.00
2018 dues x6	\$120.00
Total Income	\$485.00
Sub-Total	\$3,030.12
Less: Exp: Website domain – 2 yrs (Dick Smith)	\$40.00
ZOOM Annual Service through 02/06/2019 (David Day)	\$149.90
Total Expense	\$189.90
BALANCE AS OF 02/28/18	\$2,840.22

### NEW BUSINESS

There was a discussion about the Club's official position regarding family memberships. It was pointed-out that our web site indicates after one family member joins, each family member thereafter should only pay a fee of \$10.00. The Board will verify this and let all know our official policy at the next meeting.

Carl (KW4EO) needs to buy and install filters for the shack. A motion was seconded and passed to allow him to purchase these tools.

### Announcements

If you're interested in doing a "shack night," as a follow-up to Tuesday night's presentation on Satellites, where I would go into more depth on linear satellites, please email me your interest



# Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club

(and a good time/day of the week for you). [N4HF@AMSAT.ORG](mailto:N4HF@AMSAT.ORG)

Tentative plans are for Thursday night, March 29th, 6:30 PM at the shack. I'm waiting to see if I have some Monday or Tuesday nights free.

Philip (N4HF)

Philip, thanks for the most interesting presentation Tuesday tonight. I heard a lot of good feedback after the meeting and with the upcoming shack night, I think there will be some new recruits to the satellite aspect of our hobby. Also, the newcomers to our meetings both said they would come back because they liked what they saw. So, thanks too for helping grow the club.

Thanks again for taking the time to do the presentation.

73s, David Day (N1DAY)

## **DONATIONS**

Ken Gallagher (N2UK) donated a premium radio for the Club's radio shack. Thanks ever so much for your generous gift.

## **CONTESTING**

Danny (NA4X) reported that the QSO Party resulted in just over 300 contacts. This is not as good as last year but propagation was poor and there were some technical issues with radio stations being too close together. Carl (KW4EO) is adding the appropriate filters which should resolve these issues for the next contest.

## **THE SHACK**

Carl (KW4EO) reported that there is a new 80 meter antenna installed and available for the shack's radios. He would like to know what other topics members would like to cover in his training sessions. He passed around a survey sheet to see where the interests are so he can address the member's needs.

## **ARRES**

John Quinn (N9JZX) announced that there will be interactive testing between local ARRES groups as soon as they receive approval. He will announce the dates as they are decided.

## **DIGITAL**

Earnie (KC4SIT) indicated that because of the popularity of the new digital modes there is a movement to include them officially in contests. More to come on this as it becomes official.

## **WEB**

Dick (W4RSS) has been busy updating and upgrading our web capabilities. Be sure in check things out on Facebook and our web site.



# Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club

## ODDS & ENDS

Carl (KW4EO) demonstrated his solutions to adding weights to help keep wire antennas flexible.

## HT Check-In Drawing

Phil (N4HF) won the solar prize for the HT check-in contest.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Ronnie (K2SST) needs assistance in digging a hole to help install his antenna. Contact any board member if you would like to help.

## FORMAL PRESENTATION

There was a formal presentation on *Intro To Amateur Satellites* given by Phil (N4HF). It was a very impressive and informative presentation. Bad weather did NOT permit a "Live" demonstration. Thanks Phil!

## 50/50 Drawing

The drawing was won by Tony (KK4FFE).

## Meeting Ended

The meeting was formally adjourned at 8:27 PM.

Minutes submitted respectfully by Doug Davis (KJ4WWN).

## Calendar of Events

Here are some notable dates:

Date	Description
April 3, 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.
April 3, 2018	<b>Formal Presentation: DX Expeditions.</b>

## 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
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

### 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>