



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



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

The PREZ Says

In case you missed it, the April meeting of BRARC was a fantastic reminder of the diversity and opportunities available to us as ham radio operators in Western North Carolina. We covered a lot of ground at the meeting from initial preparations for this year's field day event to DX Expeditions in the South Pacific to activities in digital radio communications. After a fine presentation by Dave Anderson (K4SV) on his trip to Baker Island, we are going to go back up in the HF spectrum in May with a presentation by Dick Smith (W4RSS) on handheld digital radios and how they link with repeaters and the internet to allow cross continent communications.

Field Day is fast approaching, so please mark your calendars on Saturday, June 23 and Sun June 24 for this event. Aside from all of the multi-mode contact opportunities, one of the most interesting aspects of field day takes place of Saturday morning which is the W4YK station set-up time. It is amazing to watch the yard in front of our meeting space get transformed into a top notch radio station. We will be operating phone, CW, and digital communications again this year along with a station set up specifically to introduce visitors to Ham radio. So, in addition to your planned participation in the event, bring along a neighbor, friend, or family and we'll give them a tour of each aspect of our radio operations. Let's make *Field Day* 2018 a real celebration of our involvement in ham radio!

73s

David Day (N1DAY/W12XUF)

Minutes from April 3, 2018

The meeting opened at 7:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance chaired by David Day (N1DAY) our club President.

In Attendance

There were a total of 18 people who signed the attendance sheet.



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Visitors

We had a total of 2 guests, as follows: Dave Anderson (K4SV), Darrell Johnson (KF4TZC).

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.

There was a motion proposed regarding non-full members being allowed to vote. The motion did NOT pass and only full members can vote.

BRARC Treasurer's Report

March 1 – March 31, 2018

Balance as of 02/28/18	\$2,840.22
Plus: Dep: 2018 dues x8	\$160.00
March 50/50 and Charlotte Hamfest ticket auction	\$14.00
Total Income	\$174.00
Sub-Total	\$3,014.22
Less: Exp: (none)	\$0.00
Total Expense	\$0.00
BALANCE AS OF 03/31/18	\$3,014.22

Announcements

CONTESTING

Danny (NA4X) announced the Rookie Roundup contest scheduled for Sunday, April 15, 2018.

THE SHACK

Carl (KW4EO) reported that the club gave 3 HTs to the new Hams in the club to get them started. He also announced the following:

April begins a new series of radio related courses. The first will be at 6PM Thursday April 19th and held at our radio shack room in the small brick building behind the BIG brick building in Jackson park. There is NO charge for this course and anyone interested is welcome to attend.

Volts, Amps, Ohms, Watts and how to use a basic meter. Can you get a good meter for \$2

Or do they really cost \$200? This class will show you how to use a meter properly (bring yours along for even more fun). There will be calibration sources available, and unknowns to measure.



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Some examples of what you can't measure properly. If you feel a bit fuzzy about AC measurements - power factor, volt-amps reactive, true power, and apparent power these will be covered in the last hour. Clamp-on meters will also be there to try. Accuracy vs resolution. Meter safety!!

Other upcoming classes:

- #2 May 17th - RF measurements / db, etc
- #3 The Oscilloscope
- #4 Radio Filters - rf/af/dsp
- #5 RF Safety/grounding/ and tracking down RFI

Our third complete HF station is now in full operation - an IC-765. Filters have been added to each rig to block interference from the local AM broadcast band stations nearby.

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)

FIELD DAY

James Reed (KK4JFO) reminded us all that *Field Day* is soon approaching (June 23 - 24th) and we will need volunteers for many different tasks. A sign-up list will be coming at the next meeting.

DIGITAL

Earnie (KC4SIT) indicated that there is a new version of FSQ (ver 1.9) for those interested. Also be sure and check the April addition of QSO for the latest article on digital communications.

WEB

Dick (W4RSS) has been busy updating and upgrading our web capabilities. The web site now accepts posts. Be sure and visit to see the changes. <http://www.Radioclub.org>

BEREAVEMENT

We wish our deepest sympathy to Martin Harris (W4FOT) who's wife Pat passed away yesterday. There are no more details available at this time.

FORMAL PRESENTATION

There was a formal presentation on *DX Expeditions* given by Dave Anderson (K4SV). It was a very informative presentation. His slide show was excellent!

50/50 Drawing

The drawing was won by Stan (N1BBS).

Meeting Ended

The meeting was formally adjourned at 8:42 PM.



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Minutes submitted respectfully by Doug Davis (KJ4WWN).

Calendar of Events

Here are some notable dates:

Date	Description
May 1, 2018	BRARC Meeting; 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.
June 3, 2018	The Flyer – Bike race starting at the Oscar Blues Brewery. Volunteers needed!
June 15, 2018	Knoxville Hamfest
Saturday June to Sunday, June 25th	Field Day

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
6 Meter Net		
6 Meter Net	53.130 MHz/T 100	Friday 9:00 PM



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220 NETS		
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

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.



Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club

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.

Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club Officers

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