



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



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

The PREZ Says

Field day planning is well underway, and the June meeting is an important one for everybody to attend as we will be locking down all of the specifics of our club's annual participation in this event. Thanks to James Reed for being this year's coordinator of field day activities. After James' update at the May meeting, the question was raised if persons who hold a Technician class license were allowed to participate, so I thought I'd take a few minutes to set the record straight on this one.

The short answer is "YES."

The longer answer is that field day, in many ways, is an event that has more to offer for hams with a Technician class license than those who hold General or Extra licenses. I can see why this question might come up because often when we talk about field day, the discussion naturally gets into how we can generate the greatest number of QSOs and points for some of the more advanced activities related to the event. I can see how that can be intimidating to some. However, generating points and QSO's, in my opinion, is not the real reason we engage in this activity. What field day is about is learning and improving our amateur radio skills first, exposure to the community second, and generating a 'score' third. Some might want to argue that the food should factor in there somewhere, but we'll leave that out of the equation for the moment.

If you think about it, there is no better opportunity for the Technician to do a deep dive into ham radio than participation in field day. If you are confused about antennas for HF activities, attend the setup session and hang out with the people who are erecting the antennas. They know their stuff about antennas and will be glad to answer any questions you may have. If it is general HF radio operation that interests you, sign up for some time slots on the Phone activities. There will always be an experienced operator there to help you learn how to pull out those difficult contacts. If it is wiring everything together that makes things work safely, spend some time with people like Carl, Martin, and Danny. They really know their stuff, and I believe thoroughly enjoy bringing people along to the more advanced aspects of the hobby. If you want to learn more



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about digital operations, find myself or Ernie and we'll turn you into a first-class PSK and RTTY operator and likely have a lot of fun during the slower times with FT-8 and WSJT-X.

Finally, if you just want to attend for the camaraderie, that is a perfectly valid reason for participation in field day. That brings us back to the food... we always plan on eating well, so maybe the chow should be bumped up a little higher on the list. Hi Hi.

73s

David Day (N1DAY/WI2XUF)

Minutes from May 1, 2018

The meeting opened at 7:01 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance chaired by David Day (N1DAY) our club President.

In Attendance

There were a total of 20 people who signed the attendance sheet.

Visitors

We had a total of 2 guests, as follows: Chuck Harris, & Cati Harris.

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

April 1 - April 30, 2018

Balance as of 03/31/18	\$3,014.22
Plus: Dep: 2018 dues x3	\$60.00
March 50/50	\$7.00
Total Income	\$67.00
Sub-Total	\$3,081.22
Less: Exp: ARRL Equipment Insurance	\$64.33
Total Expense	\$64.33
BALANCE AS OF 04/30/18	\$3,016.89

Announcements

Thanks to all those who volunteered to install antennas at Sid's (W4IOE) and Ronnies (K2SST).



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THE SHACK

Carl (KW4EO) reported No changes in the W4YK shack. We have very nice Isopolar antenna to put up for use for ARES/APRS digipeater/ Everything available, just need help putting it on the roof since I can no longer climb.

Field day is next big event.

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

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 which will be dedicated to scheduling this event.

FORMAL PRESENTATION

There was a formal presentation on *DMR Radio* by Steve Smith (W4RSS). It was a very informative presentation.

50/50 Drawing

The drawing was won by John Forehand (KN4CBT).

Meeting Ended

The meeting was formally adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Minutes submitted respectfully by Doug Davis (KJ4WWN).



Calendar of Events

Here are some notable dates:

Date	Description
June 5, 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 WNC Flyer – Bike race starting at the Oscar Blues Brewery. Volunteers needed! Contact Danny (NA4X).
Saturday June 24 th to Sunday, June 25 th	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
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



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Mount Spivey 220 Net	224.600/T 98.4	Wednesday 8:00 PM
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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.

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.



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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