



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



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

## The PREZ Says

I am sorry we had to cancel the last meeting. From now on I will just stick with the original schedule even if it is on a holiday. This is also a reminder in case of snow we follow *Blue Ridge Tech's* night time schedule. If they are closed we will not have our scheduled meeting. Also one other reminder is we need to turn in our \$20 dues to Steve Smith. I appreciate you doing this.

Over the next two weekends there will be contests going on at the shack. You are welcome to join us. The first one is Jan. 19th starting at 1:00 PM until 1:00 AM. The second contest is Winter Field Day which runs from 2:00 PM Jan. 26th until 2:00 PM Jan. 27th. The Road Show will be heading this contest up at our shack, but they need a lot of help. They will also have a special event station operating. They really could use a lot of help all day Saturday. Please contact me at [rectordl@bellsouth.net](mailto:rectordl@bellsouth.net) to sign up. Let's make a great showing from our club.

Meeting topic next meeting will be Slow Scan TV by David Day.

## Minutes from January, 2019

The club meeting was cancelled due to a scheduling room conflict with Parks & Recreation. However, there was an informal meeting in the Shack. Attendance was not taken but there were at least 10 – 15 attendees. Consequently no minutes were recorded.

### BRARC Treasurer's Report

December 1 – December 31, 2018

Balance as of 11/30/18	\$3,459.45
Plus: Dep: 5x 2019 dues	\$100.00
Total Income	\$100.00
Sub-Total	\$3,559.45



# Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club

Less: Exp: Balance adj to bank statement	\$33.89
Total Expense	\$33.89
BALANCE AS OF 12/31/18	\$3,525.56

## Announcements

### Note from your Publisher, Doug (KJ4WWN):

Monthly content for the Echo is dependent solely upon monthly submissions. My job as publisher is to edit, collate, and disseminate the information provided in a timely manner. If you find the monthly Echo lacking in information or content and would like the Echo to become something you look forward to reading each month, perhaps you should consider becoming more active in submitting interesting content.

We have many active Hams involved in several different aspects of Ham radio. It's impossible to keep-up with all these activities without your input. Consider sharing your knowledge and experience with the rest of your Club members. You don't have to be a polished writer, we can help with that.

By the way, the same idea also applies to monthly presentations at each club meeting. If you have done something of interest, please share it with the Club membership as a formal presentation. With such a diverse membership, there must be several people who could share their knowledge with our community. We welcome it.

Respectfully, Doug (KJ4WWN)

### Digital Modes

By now folks should realize the January 1 cutoff for versions of WSJT-X below 2.0 has passed. The new version, WSJT-X 2.0 is now available. See <https://physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/k1jt/wsjt.html> for complete info and download. I also recommend JTAlert used along with WSJT. It can be found here <https://hamapps.com/>. One thing to remember about FT8... there are many hams seriously chasing awards with FT8. JTAlert allows hams to "block" the appearance of call signs of hams that do not upload QSOs to either eQSL, LoTW or both, choice is up to operator. So if you are **NOT** uploading QSOs and can't seem to connect to many other hams on FT8 you might want to consider this as a possible problem. As I type this piece PSK Reporter Statics <https://pskreporter.info/cgi-bin/pskstats.pl> indicates the following for last two hours.

### Modes over last 2 hours

Mode	Count
FT8	1212371
CW	4023
JS8	1745
MSK144	856



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PSK31	707
JT65	467
SIM31	432
JT9	366
ROS	61
RTTY	58
PSK63	54
OPERA	33
PI4	32
PSK	11
OLIVIA-4	8
PSK125	6
MFSK16	6
THRB	3
JT65B	3
CONTESTI	3
THOR	2
QPSK31	2
OLIVIA	1
SSB	1
SSTV	1
FREQCAL	1

Did anyone try FT8 in the contest mode during last week's ARRL International RTTY Contest? David N1DAY, Sid W4IOE and I took a hand in it. Here is a link from the ARRL on using FT8 in RTTY contest. Makes for good preparation for this year's Field Day.

<http://www.arrl.org/files/file/ContestResults/2019/January%202019%20QST%20-%20Taylor%20-%20FT8.pdf> You can also check out the ARRL post-contest article regarding the coexistence of RTTY and FT8 here <http://www.arrl.org/news/rtty-and-ft8-successfully-coexist-in-2019-arrl-rtty-roundup>

## Slow Scan TV

In the world of Slow Scan TV Ronnie K2SST and I opened the world of SSTV to David N1DAY over the past month using MMSSTT <https://hamsoft.ca/pages/mmsstv.php> and EasyPal <http://easypal.org/> More next month.



# Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club

We have also received approval to experiment with SSTV through the .640 repeater so if you hear strange sounds... and last, N1DAY, K2SST and I are posting images we receive at our home QTH. You can find us on the World SSTV Cam website (scroll down the page and look for our calls, N1DAY K2SST KC4SIT) <http://worldsstv.com/>

Oh, one final piece, the ARRL 2018 Grid Case is over. To find out your score or other club member scores go here. <http://www.arrl.org/international-grid-chase-2018#announcement> Next month I'll include our work on 60 meters; I can't speak for others but over the holidays I logged 40 states, 6 continents, 16 zones, 107 counties and 34 countries out of 195 QSOs (all digital).

If you have digital questions/comments/requests just ask....

Until the next QSO  
73 Ernie (KC4SIT, WI2XQU)  
<mailto:kc4sit@gmail.com>

## FORMAL PRESENTATION

There was no formal presentation this month.

## 50/50 Drawing

There was no drawing.

## Calendar of Events

Here are some notable dates:

Date	Description
<b>February, 2019</b>	<b>BRARC Meeting;</b> . Held at <i>Jackson Park</i> . Time 7:00 PM. In the case of inclement weather on a meeting night, when <i>Blue Ridge College</i> is closed, we do not have a meeting.
<b>January 19, 2019</b>	<b>Contest</b> - Contact Danny to volunteer.
<b>January 26 to 27, 2019</b>	<b>Winter Field Day</b> - The Road Show will be heading this contest up at our shack, but they need a lot of help.



# Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club

## For Sale

FOR SALE: ICOM AH-4 antenna tuner.  
\$200. Email Duke at [W4DK@arrl.Net](mailto:W4DK@arrl.Net)

Like new: [Yaesu FT-817 ND HF, VHF, UHF radio](#) with an LDG Z-817 AutoTuner and aluminum radio stand, and programming software (if I can find the CD ROM.) Asking \$500. Email Doug at [themtns@yahoo.com](mailto:themtns@yahoo.com)

## 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 Mitchell 220 Net	224.540 MHz	Monday 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
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



# Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club

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
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## Simplex Nets

2 Meter Simpex Net	146.205 MHZ	Tuesday 8:30 PM
2 Meter USB Net	144.205 MHZ	Tuesday 9:00 PM
440 Simplex Net	432.110 MHZ	Tuesday 9:30 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.

## 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 unformatted ASCII copy to Doug (KJ4WWN) at [themtns@yahoo.com](mailto:themtns@yahoo.com).

## Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club Officers



## Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club

Title	Name	Call Sign	Phone	Email
President	Danny Rector	NA4X	828-698-3231	<a href="mailto:record@bellsouth.net">record@bellsouth.net</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>