



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



*Official Transmitter of the Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club - W4YK  
Also, find us on the web at <http://www.radioclub.org>!  
Volume 18, Number 1 – January, 2005*

### The Prez Sez

Your Editor is kind of writing this column for George, K3GK. He'll be here as a regular contributor beginning with the February issue. I am delighted that George and all the other officers agreed to run this year. My constant theme over the last couple of years has been that we all need to **be part** of this organization. I hope you will all pitch in when George or Gene or others call for volunteers and help with the club.

73  
Dick, K4KQJ, Echo Editor

***Our Next Meeting: January 4, 2005  
Stoney Mountain Activities Center, 7:30 pm  
Walt Wernsing on Wire Antennas***

***"The years teach much that the days never know." -- Emerson***

### **A BIG THANK YOU**

to Larry Brady, NC4LB, and the Asheville QuickPrint Team for printing the Echo every month!

#### ***Special Invitation to BRARC members***

Duke Knief, W4DK, ARES/RACES Emergency Coordinator for Henderson County and a fellow BRARC member has issued an invitation for all BRARC members who are interested to attend the January 20<sup>th</sup> ARES training session to see a presentation on winter weather. Duke writes, "On Dec 7, the Tarheel Emergency Net (NCARES) hosted a "Winter Weather" presentation by Jeff Orrock of the NWS (he did a similar one on Hurricanes a while back). We "captured" the video (PowerPoint) and associated audio and will re-present the program to the ARES group at the monthly training meeting on 20 January (1900L.) If you missed the original and want to see it .... show up. It's worth your time..... 73dk"

The Henderson County ARES group meets in the Land Development Building, 101 East Allen St, Hendersonville. The meetings begin at 7:00 pm.

#### **Dues Are Due!**

Remember that the first of the year marks the renewal time for Club dues. As of the November Meeting, the annual dues have been raised to \$20.00. Bring your check book on Tuesday.!



## **BLUE RIDGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meeting Minutes**

There were no minutes from the Annual Christmas Party on December 14. A record turnout spilled out of the meeting room into the main dining room at Ryan's. Good food, good conversation and a chance to renew acquaintances with club members and spouses and their families. Thanks to all for coming.

### **John Covington W4CC, North Carolina SM on Radio Clubs (excerpted from his Monthly Section News email)**

Several times in the last month I have been asked by club officers if other clubs are experiencing a decline in membership, and if I have any suggestions about what can they do to perk up their club. I do, and I hope you will forgive me for being long-winded this month.

Some of these clubs have even considered going from monthly to quarterly meetings. While I realize for some regional and specialty clubs quarterly meetings might make sense, in my opinion this is not a good idea for a regular local club.

Local clubs that switch to quarterly meetings will only accelerate the exodus from their clubs. Less personal contact with other members means less personal interest, and it won't be long after that before many members stop attending or paying dues altogether. Missing only one quarterly meeting means that a member won't see other members for half a year! Keep monthly meetings going even if the attendance is not as large as you would like it to be. It is not numbers that make a good club, it's the quality of the experience.

There are three main reasons people join organizations: to socialize, to learn from others, and to be of service to others. Each person's dominant reason will change over time, and family, career and medical matters will affect their ability to participate also. So, members will naturally come and go, but our clubs will remain viable if they can meet those three reasons for most of their members.

Clubs of all types, not just amateur radio, are experiencing a decline in membership. This is a national trend, and the reasons for this are beyond the scope of my column, but it appears that amateur radio is not alone with this problem. Some civic organizations are reporting they have less than half of the members they did thirty years ago.

One encouraging sign for us is that the latest generation of young people and adults seem to be more interested in volunteering and joining organizations than their recent predecessors. We need to make this trend work for us, and I will discuss that in more detail next month.

As for things you can do now to improve interest in your club, there are several things that I discussed at a hamfest forum a few years ago which I have included here below. It's not comprehensive, and it won't work for all clubs, but I offer it here as "food for thought." I hope you find something helpful. Many of these suggestions can apply to ARES groups, too.

*Editor's Note: His suggestions will follow in the February ECHO.*

### **THINGS I OWE MY MOTHER!!**

1. My mother taught me TO APPRECIATE A JOB WELL DONE: "If you're going to kill each other, do it outside. I just finished cleaning."
2. My mother taught me RELIGION: "You better pray that will come out of the carpet."
3. My mother taught me about TIME TRAVEL: "If you don't straighten up, I'm going to knock you into the middle of next week!"
4. My mother taught me LOGIC: " Because I said so, that's why."
5. My mother taught me MORE LOGIC: "If you fall out of that swing and break your neck, you're not going to the store with me."



Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club - W4YK  
 c/o Dick Smith, K4KQJ,  
 P. O. Box 831  
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Club Meeting Tuesday  
 January 4, 2005  
 SMAC 7:30 pm



Henderson County ARES  
 Training Session  
 Thursday, January 20, 2005, 7:00 pm  
 Henderson County EOC



Next club meeting  
 February 1, 2005 7:30 pm  
 Stoney Mountain Activity Center



### Nets and On-The-Air Activities

Net	Freq / PL	Day	Time
<b>BRARC Net</b>	<b>146.640 MHz/ 91.5</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>8:00 PM</b>
<b>BRARC Rag Chew</b>	<b>28350 kHz</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>following 146.640 net</b>
Oasis Shrine Net	145.190 MHz	Sunday	9:00 PM
Mount Pisgah 220 Net	224.260 MHz	Sunday	9:00 PM
Good Morning Net	146.760 MHz	M-W-F	9:00 AM
WCARS Info. Net	146.910 MHz/ 91.5	Monday	8:30 PM
Mount Mitchell 220 Net	224.540 MHz	Monday	9:00 PM
WCARS Simplex Net	147.525 MHz	Tuesday	8:30 PM
<i>Henderson County ARES Net</i>	146.640 MHz / 91.5	Wednesday	8:30 PM
Buncombe ARES Net	146.910 MHz/ 91.5	Wednesday	9:00 PM
Transylvania ARC Net	147.135 MHz	Thursday	8:00 PM
QCWA Chapter 76	3942 kHz (SSB)	Saturday	9:00 AM
6600 Net	145.190 MHz	Saturday	9:00 PM
K4UUQ Morning Net	7225.5 kHz (SSB)	Mon-Sat 7:00 AM	Sunday 8:00 AM
NC Morning Net	3927 kHz (SSB)	Daily	7:45 AM
SATERN Net	14265 kHz	Daily	10:00 AM
Carolinas Slow Net	3695 kHz (CW 5-8 wpm)	Daily	8:00 PM
NC Evening Net	3923 kHz (SSB)	Daily	6:30 PM
Carolinas Net (Early)	3573 kHz (CW 20-22 wpm)	Daily	7:00 PM
Tarheel ARES Net	3923 kHz (SSB)	Daily	7:30 PM
Blue Ridge Traffic (SC)	146.610 MHz	Daily	9:00 PM
Carolinas Net (Late)	3573 kHz (CW 15-18 wpm)	Daily	10:00 PM

if this information has changed, please contact Dick Smith at 687-9531 or k4kqj@arrl.net!