



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 3 – March, 2005*

The Prez Sez

I'm a newcomer to Hendersonville and it took me almost a year to find my way around Hooterville. I found the club by way of the Internet, joined up and then went on to join ARES. I can testify to the hearty welcome I received and the new friends I have found. We can be very proud of our club and the public-spirited nature of the members. But that is not all. It seems we are only the tip of the iceberg. Thanks to a piece of NTS traffic that Duke, W4DK, passed me on the ARES net, I have found that Hendersonville is home to many more hams and several very active groups. There is QCWA, the DX club and amateurs who while not members of the club are very active on the air. One such is Sis Berry, director of the Hit and Bounce net that meets every day on 7042 KHZ @ 8:30 AM. The Hit and Bounce net is an east coast institution with an interesting history. Their website is hitandbounce.net. Sis assured me that while it is a high speed CW net the group slows down for newcomers. Go to the hitandbounce.net site and you will find out what 'Arfer' means. If you get a chance before Martin, W4FOT, addresses the club on the proper way to solder antenna connectors, take a look at this month's QST (page 47). I read the article and soon realized that a live demonstration would be a more effective training tool. Thank you Martin! Be sure also to ask Martin what IRLP means. Like I said, a lot goes on here...

73,
George, K3GK

At This Month's Meeting: March 1, 2005
Martin Harris, W4FOT on soldering antenna connectors
Stoney Mountain Activities Center, 802 Mountain Rd., Hendersonville 7:30 pm

"Many receive advice, few profit by it." – Publilius Syrus (~100 BC)

North Carolina QSO Party!

` Come visit the club's radio shack on Sunday afternoon, February 27th. (It's at our meeting site.) We will participate in the 2005 North Carolina QSO Party.

` This is a great opportunity to familiarize ourselves with the club's equipment, especially since we will be using the same rigs on Field Day. Several experienced members of the club should be on hand to show us the ropes of contesting. It will also be an opportunity for Technician Class members to QSO on the HF bands.

` The shack will be working from noon until we grow hoarse, so stop by for a few minutes, or longer, to help out.

Questions?? Contact Michael Parente AI4GR, ai4gr@arrl.net or 891-8970

Upcoming Hamfests

Charlotte, NC 2005 Hamfest and Computerfair
March 12 & 13, 2005

Goodies for sale:

KF4AYG has the following gear for sale:

Radio Shack HTX400, 440 radio w/manual and case \$40.00

Radio Shack GPS unit for laptop w/2003 Delorme Street Atlas and software \$45.00

Sears Craftsman table top drill press-heavy duty-used very little \$70.00

Contact Ronnie, KF4AYG at 699-5645 and leave a message or 891-4135

BLUE RIDGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meeting Minutes

Minutes of February 1st, 2005 Meeting

The regular monthly meeting of the Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club began at the regularly scheduled time with the Pledge of Allegiance to our national flag. There were 27 members in attendance; and, we had one visitor. Our visitor was Jeff Davies, KI4HQR. Though Jeff has a new call, he is not new to ham radio. Jeff is now an American citizen who came to us from Britain. He had a British license, but; when he became an American citizen, he had to get a F.C.C. license. George Korper, K3GK, was the presiding officer.

After the welcome and introduction of our visitor, our meeting began with a call by George for volunteers in two areas. We needed to elect a member at large to replace Walt, KO4JN, who has served with distinction for several years. Michael Parente, AI4GR, wanted to know what was involved with this duty. Next thing he knew, he was elected member at large for the next year.

Next, George asked for three volunteers to form a committee to select a field day site. After a couple of moments of silence, four members "volunteered" to serve. These were Martin, W4FOT; Duke, W4DK; Ken, KE4SQU; and Ronnie, K2SST. While we were in the process of getting volunteers, Duke asked about the possibility of starting classes for new hams. George and Dick, K4KQJ, volunteered to set-up and organize this endeavor.

There were a flurry of announcements to be made. These included:

Dick asked everyone that possibly could to please take delivery by e-mail the monthly edition of "THE ECHO". This will eliminate the need for postage for snail mail. Dick also informed us that our website would be moving to a new domain soon, which will enable the club to keep the web page current. We will be able to keep our web name, www.radioclub.org.

Respectfully submitted,
Sid Hendricks KG4NBN

Top Five Things A Good Club Should Have: (this month #'s 5-1, courtesy W4CC)

5. Informative, Timely Newsletter. Although not as effective as personal contact, a newsletter is still the most important way that information about your club and its activities is communicated to its members. Most clubs are lucky to have 1/3 of their paid membership at each meeting, so you must keep the other 2/3 informed, or they will drop out. Make sure it comes out on time, so people won't hear about events after they happen. E-mail newsletters make this fairly easy to do.

4. Educational Activities. Whether working their way up the licensing ladder, or just learning about new techniques, most club members want to learn something new about ham radio. Make sure you have educational meeting programs for your members and license classes for newcomers and upgrades (these newcomers are also potential members; make sure you invite them to the club meetings while they are studying!).

3. Family Involvement. Make sure that families are involved in your club. Social events are great ways for families to see what the club is all about. Besides, family members can be prospective hams!

2. Good Public Relations. Each club should have a good public relations program. Make sure the public knows the good things you are doing. This will make it easier to recruit new hams, and will help if you need to challenge or avoid antenna ordinances. It will also help you fill license classes and get new members.

1. DON'T FORGET TO HAVE FUN! Ham radio is both a service and a hobby. It is easy to get bogged down in the details of running a club, but don't forget that people want to have fun too. If they don't, you won't have much of a club.



Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club - W4YK
 c/o Dick Smith, K4KQJ,
 P. O. Box 831
 Horse Shoe, NC 28742



Club Meeting Tuesday

March 1, 2005

SMAC 7:30 pm



Henderson County ARES

Training Session

Thursday, February 17, 2005, 7:00 pm

Henderson County EOC



Next club meeting

April 5, 2005 7:30 pm

Stoney Mountain Activity Center



Nets and On-The-Air Activities

Net	Freq / PL	Day	Time
BRARC Net	146.640 MHz/ 91.5	Sunday	8:00 PM
BRARC Rag Chew	28350 kHz	Sunday	following 146.640 net
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	9:00 PM
Hit and Bounce Net(CW)	7.042 MHz	Daily	8:30 AM
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!