



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



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

Message from the President, Danny (NA4X)

The Prez Says...

Thank you to everyone for a decent first turn out on a very cold night at our new location. Other than the room being a little chilly, I think things went well. I think our new location gives us some very good possibilities for activities such as training classes and testing. It is very handicap accessible. Philip and Stan gave some very good high flying presentations dealing with balloons and satellites. Thank you! Next month we are going to take a look at contesting (alias "Radio Sport"). Why should you enter a contest? Can you enter a contest with just 100 watts and a stealth antenna? Come find out. See you next month.

Danny (NA4X)



Treasurer's Report

The *Treasurer* reported a balance of \$ 1,177.04 - as of December 31, 2013. Members are reminded that dues for 2014 are still \$20.00 and payable ASAP. We had six renewals during the meeting. Send checks to Steve Smith (KC5F) or call 828-697-6388 for more details.

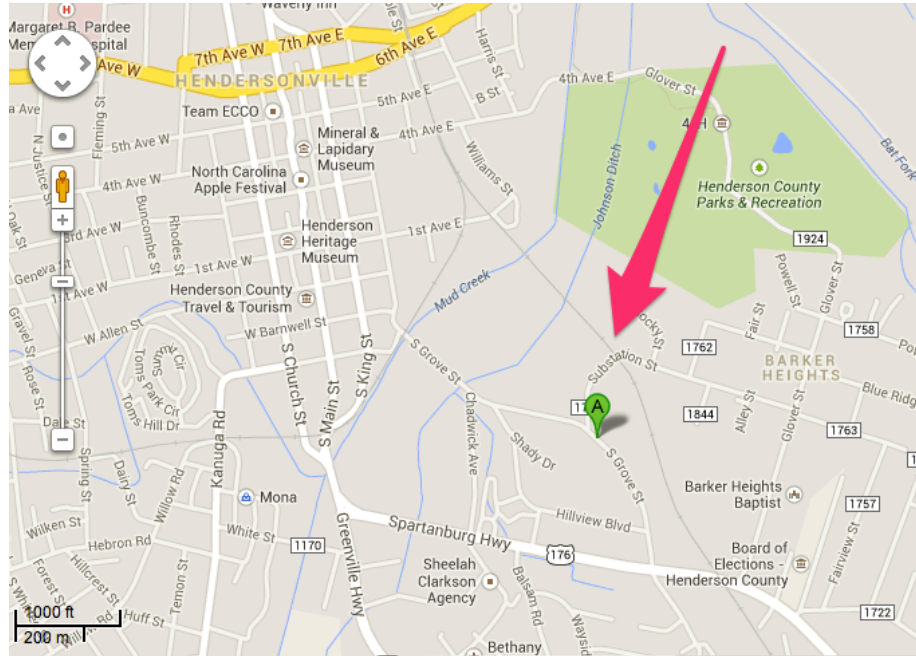
Minutes from January 7, 2014

The meeting was held at the *Henderson County Athletics & Activity Center*. It was called to order by President Danny Rector (NA4X) promptly at 7:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

In Attendance: There were a total of 16 people who signed the attendance sheet. This included Phil (N4HF), and William (W3RNG) from Traveler's Rest, SC.

New Meeting Place: The BRARC has a change of venue. Our new meeting place is as follows

708 South Grove Street
Hendersonville, NC 28792
See the following map...



Henderson County Athletics & Activity Center

Meetings are held the first Tuesday of the month starting at 7:00 PM in room A101. See you all there!

Public Events

Tech Fest – Scheduled for Saturday, January 11, 2014. Located in Lawrenceville, GA. They give annual presentations on amateur radio including mesh networks, D-Star, ARES, and all facets of ham radio. Contact Phil (N4HF) for more details.

Radio Sport

There will be the *North America QSO Contest* on February 23, 2014. Details to follow. There will also be an informative presentation on “*Contesting*” at the next meeting. Michael (AI4GR) is the presenter.

General News

The DX Club meets once a month at local restaurants to discuss DXing. Anyone who is interested is invited to join the group. They meet at the LongStar Restaurant in Arden, NC, Thursday January 9, 2014 starting at 6:00 PM.

There will be a *Technician Training Class* at AB Tech in Asheville, NC. Classes start February 11, 2014. Please contact Norman Harrill (N4NH), 828-253- for more details.

Hamfests

No new hamfests were reported.

Formal Presentation

There were two formal presentations. The first was a photo show of the balloon launch presented by Phil (N4HF). There were several high altitude photographs taken and recovered from the launch. The balloon peaked at 93,000 feet before it collapsed.

The second presentation was given by Stan (N1BBS) on OSCAR (Orbital Satellite Carrying Amateur Radio). He explained the details on equipment required and software available to aid in tracking these satellites.

Both presentations were enjoyed by all.

Meeting Adjourned at: 8:25 pm

VE Exams

The next scheduled VE exam is in February 9, 2014 at the *Mountain Home Fire Station*. Testing begins at 9:00 AM. Bring \$10, your original license, a photo ID, and a photo copy of your license as well. Good luck!



Calendar of Events

Here are some notable dates to be aware of:

Date	Description
Feb 4, 2014	The next club meeting will offer a presentation on " <i>Radio Sport</i> " presented by Michael (AI4GR).
Feb 9, 2014	Test session at Mountain Home Fire Station. 9:00 AM.
Feb 23, 2014	North Carolina QSO Party.
March 2014	There will be a presentation on ARES. Details are TBA.

Items for Sale

No new listing this month.

Drawing Winner:

Duke (W4DK) won the 50/50 drawing.

Club Information

Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club (BRARC)

One of the key benefits of joining or having a ham radio club in your community is to link-up with like-minded people who share similar interests. 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* 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. Radio operators practice using their equipment without power from the grid. So during REAL emergencies they can and do, supply the necessary communication to first responders so they can provide help to those who need it. Hurricane Sandy was a perfect example.

On a lighter note, the 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, horse riding events at the Biltmore Estates, and the Fletcher Flier.

In addition to all that, 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 including some technical ones as well.

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 6-7 days of each month in order to meet publication deadlines. Please send your copy to Doug (KJ4WWN) at themtns@yahoo.com.

Popular Ham Radio Nets

Name	Frequency/Tone	Day/Days AM/PM (EST)
BRARC Net	146.640 MHz/ 91.5	Sunday 8:00 PM
Henderson County ARES Net	146.640 MHz / 91.5	Wednesday 8:30 PM
Oasis Shrine Net	145.190 MHz	Sunday 9:00 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/ 91.5	Monday 9:00 PM
Buncombe ARES Net	146.910 MHz/ 91.5	Wednesday 9:00 PM
Transylvania ARC Net	147.135 MHz	Thursday 8:00 PM
WCARS Simplex Net	147.525 MHz	Tuesday 8:30 PM
Mount Pisgah 220 Net	224.260 MHz	Sunday 9:00 PM
Mount Mitchell 220 Net	224.540 MHz	Monday 8:00 PM
Mount Mitchell 220 Rag Chew Net	224.540 MHz	Thursday 8:00 PM
Mount Mitchell 440 Net	442.225 MHz/107.2	Monday 8:00 PM
Hit and Bounce Net (CW)	7.042 MHz	Daily 8:30 AM
K4UUQ Morning Net	7.225.5 MHz (SSB)	Mon-Sat 7:00 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
QCWA Chapter 76	3.740 MHz (SSB)	Saturday 8:45 AM
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
SATERN Net	14.265 MHz	Daily 10:00 AM
BRARC Rag Chew	28.350 MHz	Sunday after the 146.640 Net
Mount Mitchell 6M Net	53.630 MHz/100.0	Friday 8:00 PM