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# 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...**

As we close out this year I just want to say how thankful I am for all of you as a club. You have served your community admirably. You have also been friendly and welcoming as a club to new people. That means more to me than anything else that we do. And because of that our club has continued to grow. I look forward to the coming year and what it holds. We need to continue to learn more about our radios and communications and then teach others. As we teach others we will learn more ourselves. It seems to be a big circle. One final thought, if you plan to do something this year such as a contest or service event you need to put it on your calendar. If you say I will wait until the day of the event to see if you have time then you will not have time and you will miss out on some great fun.

### **Merry Christmas!**

Danny, NA4X

ps. Great turn out for the Christmas dinner and the parades! Thank you.

Danny (NA4X)

## **Minutes from December 4, 2014**

There was no formal meeting. Instead, we met at the Twin Dragons for a Christmas celebration. No minutes were recorded.

# Treasurer's Report



## BRARC Treasurer's Report November 1 - November 30, 2014

Balance as of 10/31/14	\$ 1,217.30
Plus: Dep: 11/10/14 -50/50	\$ 13.00
Total Income	\$ 13.00
Sub-Total	\$ 1,230.30
Less: Exp: 11/4/14 - Shack maintenance	\$ 33.69
11/8/14 - Shack maintenance	\$ 50.12
Total Expense	\$ 83.81
BALANCE AS OF 11/30/14	\$ 1,146.49

## New Business

### Announcements

- Michael, (AI4GR), will send email requesting help with work on the new shack.
- John, (N9JZX), reported that the SET of Saturday November 1<sup>st</sup> was successful.
- Danny announced the meeting of December 2<sup>nd</sup> will be the annual Christmas dinner. It will be held at the *Twin Dragons* restaurant beginning 6:00 PM.

### Formal Presentation

There was no formal presentation.

### 50/50 Drawing

There was no 50/50 drawing held.

## Calendar of Events

Here are some notable dates to be aware of:

Date	Description
January 6, 2015	<b>BRARC Meeting.</b> Held at Jackson Park. Time 7:00 PM. See you there.

Respectfully submitted,  
Doug, (KJ4WWN)

### Announcements

Congratulations to Kenneth Flanagan. He passed both the Tech and General on 11/22. There was a snafu with the paper work but it was cleared today and the FCC issued Ken the call sign KM4GGS.

### Dues

The 2015 dues for the *Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club* are \$20 and are now payable. Either send a check made out to "BRARC" or bring a check or cash to the January 6th meeting. Thanks!

- Steve Smith, KC5F, BRARC Treasurer  
607 E Blue Ridge Rd  
East Flat Rock NC 28726-2205

### Sweepstakes Wrap-Up

Ten of us converged on the new shack 15 – 16 November for the 2014 ARRL Sweepstakes contest.

Despite some equipment glitches at the start, we finished really well. Looking back over previous contests we had our 2nd highest score for the club. Our 43,956 points were eclipsed only by the 62,400 of 2010.

We contacted 74 of the 83 possible sections, so not a "*clean sweep*."

Our antenna was the 180' extended Double-Zepp. It reached out well, especially on 40m. At the peak of our activity, we were logging at a sustained rate of 80 QSOs/hour. And keep in mind that this is the first Sweepstakes that we operated without the tower or its beam.

Operators included:

Eric, KM4DOM      David, N1DAY      Shannon, KM4EFT  
Steve, KC5F      Christian, KM4FLG      Michael, AI4GR  
Philip, N4HF      Bill, KD4RAM      Danny, NA4X  
Ken F.

## Items for Sale or Wanted

### For Sale

Yaesu FT-1900 2M radio. Original box, mic, mounting brackets, manual, still under warranty. Also includes RT Systems programming software & cable. Asking \$150. Contact Doug, KJ4WWN, 828-685-1291.

## Popular Ham Radio Nets

Name	Frequency/Tone	Day/Days AM/PM (EST)
BRARC Net (W4YK)	146.640 MHz/ T 91.5	Sunday 8:00 PM
Henderson County ARES Net	146.640 MHz / T 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/ T 91.5	Monday 9:00 PM
Buncombe ARES Net	146.910 MHz/ T 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 Pisgah 220 Thursday Net	224.260 MHz	Thursday 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
Friday 6 Meter Rag Chew	53.130 MHz/ T 100	Friday 8:00 PM

## 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 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.

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.

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

## Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club Officers

Title	Name	Call Sign	Phone	Email
President	Danny Rector	NA4X	828-329-8863	rectordl@bellsouth.net
Vice President	Bill Gaede	KK4VCQ		rattletree7@gmail.com
Treasurer & Membership	Steve Smith	KC5F	828-697-6388	kc5f@arrl.net
Secretary	Doug Davis	KJ4WWN	828-685-1291	themtns@yahoo.com
Member @ Large	Stan Frady	N1BBS	910-366-2133	skfrady@gmail.com
Web & Testing	Dick Smith	W4RSS	828-687-9531	w4rss@att.net