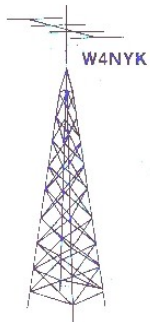


THE LIVE WIRE

The Monthly Publication of the Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Society, Inc.

January 2012



**Blue Ridge
Amateur Radio Society**
Greenville, South Carolina

**CLUB & BOARD
MEETING SCHEDULE**
(BOD at 6:15, Club at 7:30)

2012

Jan. 2	Feb. 6
March 5	April 2
May 7	June 4
July 2	Aug. 6
Sept. 3	Oct. 1
Nov. 5	Dec. 3

BRARS OFFICERS

Pres. Josh Owings, KG4PFJ
V. Pres. Johnny Allison, WD4DYH
Sec. Rick Bagwell, KD4DRA
Treas. Robert Martin, K4SCX

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bob Taylor, N3PT
Tom Small, KB1EFA
Wyatt Miler, KJ4CTD
Ron Dobbins, KE4VE

"A true friend never gets in your way unless you happen to be going down."

- Arnold H. Glasow

There has been some interest among fellow Hams to have an informal Meet and Greet. (In South Greenville Cnty) Lets make it for all Hams and Family, that would like to Come, just to talk about what ever is on your mind.

Maybe we'll be able to spark some interest in a New Ham.

Please pass the word !!!!

We have secured a meeting room at Carolina Fine Foods, located on Main Street, Simpsonville. We can use a meeting room for free, he just ask that we buy something to eat.

In addition to its everyday Menu, this Casual, Family-Friendly Diner has a Seafood Bar from 5-9 p.m. Friday and Saturday, a hot Bar from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday through Friday and a Breakfast Bar from 6-11 a.m. everyday. Three private rooms are available for parties or meetings.

If you would like to kick this off, lets meet there at 6:30pm on January 27th. I'll see you there.

There is another Meet and Greet in Taylors/Greer on Fridays also.



Click for Map

625 SE Main St
Simpsonville, SC 29681

A twist on fast food, Carolina Fine Food features Southern cuisine with both counter service and buffet lines inside, and customers can call ahead and pick up their orders through the drive-through.

A Look at One of the Guys at work on the 61 Tower, they are working very hard to bring life back into the 61 machine.

The best thing we can do, to help the guys is to support them. You have to understand that they have regular jobs that pay their bills, and put food on the table, they are working as quickly as they can.

Lets give them a proverbial PAT on the back, you can do this with a good word when you are using the repeater.

They have given a lot of time to this project, (Not to mention the expenses they cover), and a lot of it is behind the scenes.

Be Patient, our time will come..and the net numbers will be back up.

I'm looking forward to using my HT, without looking for the sweet spot.



"A wise man is superior to any insults which can be put upon him, and the best reply to unseemly behavior is patience and moderation."
- Moliere

Ham License Testing Sessions

Administered by Volunteer Examiners (VE)'s

***For all tests you should arrive at least 15 minutes early
and bring the following:***

Photo ID (such as Drivers License or State ID)

***Original and photocopy of your current Radio License, if applicable
(as well as any CSCE's you will present for verification for upgrades)
Social Security Card or FCC-issued Registration Number***

Good Luck!

Greenville SC

3rd Saturday of each month

Testing begins at 8:30 AM

Red Cross Building

940 Grove Rd. (near G'ville Memorial Hospital)

Fee is \$10.00

Contact: Steve Shaffer @ af4rn@bellsouth.net

[Map Here](#)

Spartanburg SC

2nd Tuesday of every even numbered month

Testing begins at 7 PM

Red Cross Building

104 Garner Road (off Pine St. -US176)

Fee is \$ 15.00

Contact: Fritz, W4NTO @ [864-583-6716](tel:864-583-6716)

[Map Here](#)

**THE BLUE RIDGE 2 METER NET
MONTHLY TOTALS FOR December 2011**

TOTAL CONTACTS 1743

SESSIONS 31

TRAFFIC 54

**KB0KBJ,(STEVE) ---
K4SCX,(ROBERT) ---
KI4DOS,(GARY) ---
KG4FQG,(PHIL) ---**

**W4DJW,(DAVE) ---
KJ4NAI,(JONATHAN) ---
KJ4BSJ,(CHARLIE) ---**

**KF4ZCC,(MIKE) ---
K4SUG,(RAY) ---
KJ4RQZ,(NATHAN) ---
WD4CYM,(KAREN) ---**

CHECK IN.. TO HEAR WHATS HAPPENING, AND RAGCHEW ON THE LOCAL NETS



Greenville: 9 pm Nightly - 146.610

Greenwood: 9 pm Thursday night - 147.165+t107.2

Greenwood Ladies: 8 pm Tuesday night - 147.165+t107.2

Anderson: 8:30 pm Nightly - 146.790

Good Morning Net: Mon-Wed-Fri: 9 am - 146.760

STATEWIDE ARES Net is on the SCHEART repeaters on Sundays at 8:00 am. 145.370/123.0 Paris mtn.

SC Single Sideband Net: 7 pm nightly - 3.915 LSB

From the Board of Directors

It is the policy of the Board of the Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Society that should any member of the Club have an issue with something the leadership of the Club is doing, the member is encouraged to bring their concerns to the attention of the Board at any Board meeting or to the membership of the Club at any regularly scheduled Club meeting. Further, the actions of the Board may be reviewed by any member of the Club at any time.

Contact the Officers

Pres. Josh Owings - Jeowings@gmail.com - 864-884-6587

V.Pres. Johnny Allison - jallison0529@gmail.com - 864-884-1314

Sec. Rick Bagwell - kd4dra@gmail.com - 864-414-1352

Treas. Robert Martin - wa4hrk@gmail.com - 864-335-9679

Board Members

Bob Taylor - rtaylor62@charter.net - 864-331-9864

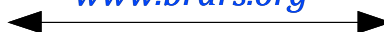
Tom Small - twsmall@yahoo.com - 864-xxx-xxxx

Wyatt Miller - kj4ctd@wmiler.org - 864-663-9203

Ron Dobbins - kd4rsm@bellsouth.net - 864-246-1269

On The Web

www.brars.org



Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Society ON FACEBOOK



The K7RA Solar Update

01/13/2012

The average daily sunspot numbers were up this week by a tiny bit, from 88.1 to 90.6, while the average daily solar flux was down slightly, from 136.2 to 134.9. Sunspot numbers for January 5-11 were 99, 118, 110, 90, 90, 63 and 64, with a mean of 90.6. The 10.7 cm flux was 141.3, 135.5, 140.5, 135.8, 142.3, 128.8 and 120.1, with a mean of 134.9. The estimated planetary A indices were 5, 5, 5, 4, 6, 4 and 5, with a mean of 4.9. The estimated mid-latitude A indices were 6, 6, 5, 5, 7, 5 and 5, with a mean of 5.6.

To get a 45 day USAF Forcast [Click Here](#)

The ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes

VHF operators will be on the bands in force the weekend of January 21-23, as the ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes hits the airwaves. This contest gives the VHFer in all of us a chance to do some contesting during the winter months. "Don't let the cold weather in much of the US dissuade you from getting on the air," said ARRL Contest Branch Manager Sean Kutzko, KX9X. "Many a portable or Rover operation has done just fine in January. While propagation enhancement can seem fleeting in January, there have been some monstrous openings during this contest in years past. Who knows? Perhaps the propagation gods will grant us a late holiday gift with an extended aurora or tropospheric event!"

Kutzko said that getting on the VHF bands is easy: "Technician class licensees have permission to use all amateur bands above 50 MHz, and the antennas for VHF frequencies are comparatively smaller than their HF counterparts. A dipole for 6 meters is less than 10 feet long and most modern transceivers come with 50 MHz already built in. Why not try stringing up a dipole for 6 meters and see what you can work?"

While most contest QSOs will be made using SSB and CW, Kutzko reminded operators not to forget about FM simplex. "There are numerous stations that enjoy 2 meter FM simplex QSOs, especially if you live near a large population center," he explained. "Just be sure to keep the national 2 meter calling frequency of 146.52 MHz clear of contest activity. But don't neglect the higher bands -- 222 MHz, 432 MHz and 1.2 GHz and up will see activity this weekend, too."

The 2012 ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes runs from 1900 UTC Saturday, January 21 through 0359 UTC Monday, January 23. Participants can submit their Cabrillo-formatted logs via e-mail. Paper logs may be sent to ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111. All logs must be postmarked no later than 0359 UTC Wednesday, February 22, 2012.

This info is direct from ARRL website.

Hamfest within 150 miles

03/10/2012 | Roanoke Division Convention - Charlotte Hamfest (tm)

Location: Concord, NC

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society

Website: <http://www.W4BFB.org/hamfest.html>

04/20/2012 | Southeastern VHF Society Conference

Location: Charlotte, NC

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Southeastern VHF Society & Carolina DX Association

Website: <http://www.svhfs.org>

BRARS Club Meeting Minutes
January 2, 2012

Johnny (WD4DYH) called the meeting to order at 7:45 PM
Roll Call took place around the room to recognize members, and guests,
4 guests were recognized.

Officer Reports:

Secretary: Rick (KD4DRA) read the minutes from last meeting. Motion to accept,
and approved.

Treasurer: Robert (K4SCX) reported that the Bank account is in good shape.
He Paid the AT&T Bill
(Club accounts are available for review by club members at any time).

Committee Reports:

NET Report:

Total 1743 Traffic 54 Sessions 31

Repeater Report:

The Repeater is receiving on the 400 foot level and transmitting on the 300 foot level, and we are still having
problems. They will go back up the tower in a couple of weeks, to take down the old antenna (folded dipole) and
make repairs to it, if they can, and place a temporary antenna in its place for now.

Field Day:

We need a Field Day Chairman. Its the last weekend of June. And to decide on site?

Ham fest:

Tony (N4BDR) will be forming a Ham Fest committee, he needs volunteers.

FWA:

May 25,26,27 and 28th are the dates. Start thinking about what you can do to help

Old Business:

We still need donation for the repeater budget. So Give what you can.... Tell your friends that they can become an
associate member of BRARS (No Voting Privileges) with a donation of \$10.00.

New Business:

Johnny passed around a request for suggestions, for Program Topics.

New application:

David G Traxler III was voted on and accepted as a new member.

Drawings:

Rick (KD4DRA) was drawn for the Club Prize of \$10.00
No 50/50 drawing

Program:

No Program

Meeting adjourned 8:45PM

Happy QSOs till we meet again

Rick / kd4dra

Secretary