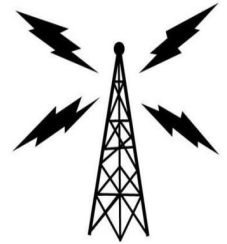




DFARG Signal



Charlie's Big Adventure!

For all not attending the February meeting, Charlie Brown (KD4CB) has taken on a cross country bicycle ride. He is doing this in support of an Army Ranger charity called, SUA Sponte. The charity supports wounded or fallen Rangers and their families. This is a good cause and the foundation officers take no pay for their work, sending 98 cents of every dollar to the needy. To keep up with Charlie and to contribute to the fundraiser go to: <https://raceroster.com/events/2026/114392/sua-sponte-coast-to-coast>
Please help us in supporting our club brother and friend in his efforts. Charlie has a friend traveling with him in a support role. They hope to make 60 miles a day and will be overnighing in an overlanding equipment truck.

DFARG Net

For all of us that monitor the numerous 2 meters nets, our own KX4TKO, Mike has revived the Little Mountain Net with a new name. It is now known as the Dutch Fork Net. Mike has done an excellent job with the next and attendance has been good. The Dutch Fork Net can be found Monday evenings at 7:00 pm on the 147.000 Repeater. I strongly encourage everyone to stop in and check it out. Mike tries to keep it timely and relevant to ham radio. This also gives us a source of information in times of emergency.

April will be POTA

The club has plans to have a series of activities pertaining to POTA. The first Saturday in April (4th) will be a seminar at the shack. We will discuss building your own setup and getting started. The monthly meeting on 4/16/2026 will include a presentation on POTA. The following Saturday, April 18, 2026, we will get together for an activation somewhere locally for practice. Come on and join in the fun. Whether or not you build a kit, it should be informative for hunters as well as activators.

Volume 8, Issue no 3

March 6, 2026

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CW Class

The first class for CW was, in my opinion, a huge success. We had 7 participants, that came in with no experience. John Miller, K4IG, taught the class and did a great job. Many thanks to John for his time and patience. Hopefully, we can get him to host another class when has time. Thank you again, John.

Upcoming Regional Hamfests and Conventions

South Carolina

4/11/2026

The Ridge Amateur Radio Club Tailgate

Located in Batesburg-Leesville, SC
For details, visit the Ridge ARC website.

Website: <https://w4rrc.org/events/tailgate>

4/25/2026

York Hamfest

An ARRL-sanctioned event

Website: <https://www.arrl.org/hamfests/york-hamfest-14>

North Carolina

03/06/2026 - 03/07/2026

Charlotte Hamfest

Location: Concord, NC

Website: <http://charlottehamfest>.

Sponsored by the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club

Website: <https://www.arrl.org/hamfests/winston-salem-spring-fest>

4/4/2026

RARSfest (Raleigh Hamfest)

This serves as the ARRL Roanoke Division Convention in Raleigh, NC.

Website: <https://www.rarsfest.org/>

4/25/2026

Winston-Salem Spring Fest

February Meeting Minutes

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

Attendance

Officers Present:

President: Rick Senkowsky

Vice President: Brandon Hawkins

Secretary: Mike Connelly

Guest Presentation

Charlie Brown (KD4CB) delivered an informative presentation on *Summits on the Air (SOTA)*, covering proper activation procedures and best practices. The presentation was well-received and highly informative.

Approval of Previous Minutes

A motion was made and approved to accept the January 2026 monthly meeting minutes.

Treasurer's Report

The January 2026 beginning balance was reported as \$7,423.10. Financial activity included donations, gas bill payments, deposits, tablets, software purchases, and a new antenna. The current balance stands at \$11,731.00.

Membership

A motion was made and approved to welcome new members Jay (N9KIY) and Chester (WA4BFE) to the club.

Upcoming Events and Announcements

The club will be implementing an audio/video setup to enhance live streaming of monthly meetings. Authorization for this project was granted at a previous meeting. Members are encouraged to submit suggestions for AV equipment to support streaming on Facebook and/or YouTube.

The W1AW/4 July session for South Carolina will run from July 22 for seven days. Members interested in

participating should contact Rick for additional information.

Additional information regarding the HF digital format FreeDV (freedv.org) will be shared as it becomes available.

Tower and antenna work will continue as weather permits. Prior approval has been obtained.

New Business

All VE testing sessions are now being conducted electronically.

The Dutch Fork Net meets every Monday at 7:00 PM on the Lexington VHF repeater (147.000 MHz, + offset, 123.0 Hz tone). KX4TKO serves as net control. Members are encouraged to participate.

Three examinees participated in the February test session, resulting in two new Technician licensees and one Amateur Extra upgrade. Congratulations to all.

The club is developing a field "go box" available for member checkout for POTA, SOTA, and other portable field activities.

Charlie Brown (KD4CB) has embarked on a coast-to-coast bicycle ride to raise donations for Sua Sponte

Foundation. His journey began on March 1, 2026, at the Pacific Ocean and is expected to take approximately 58 days, concluding at the Atlantic Ocean in St. Augustine.

During his ride, Charlie will be activating amateur radio contacts in every state he travels through. He is offering commemorative QSL cards and certificates to supporters and participating operators.

To support his efforts and contribute to the fundraiser, please visit:

<https://raceroster.com/events/2026/114392/sua-sponte-coast-to-coast>

Workshops and Classes

A POTA workshop is planned for the spring, followed by a club POTA activation event. This event will be open to both activators and hunters.

John Miller conducted a CW (Morse code) class each Saturday in February. The class was highly successful, and additional follow-up sessions will be scheduled in the coming months.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made and approved. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

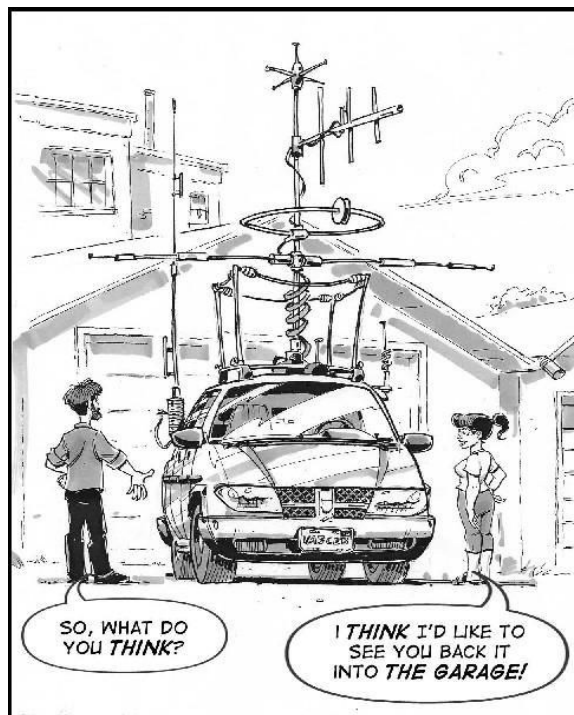
Notes and Happenings

Reminder:

All VE testing sessions are now being conducted electronically. The next one is scheduled for March 28.

Tower and antenna work will continue as weather permits. Prior approval has been obtained.

Ham Humor



Pinterest