



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



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

## The PREZ Says

I washed my hands- and sanitized my keyboard, so it should be safe to read this..

Great input from the members last meeting- thank you for participating..

BRARC's request to hold **Summer Field Day** this June at Jackson Park is going to be on the Henderson County Board of Commissioners Meeting Wed March 18th. Meeting is in the Historic Courthouse on Main St, and this one will begin at 9:30 AM. The request is on the Consent Agenda- and will likely pass unless there are any questions- it would be nice if we had some members attend. ( if they indeed have the meeting).

Informal Meeting – 9:00 AM March 21<sup>st</sup> at Ingles near the Hendersonville Fresh Market (bring your own wet wipes).

Next Meeting- (if any of us survive the corona pandemic) - April 7<sup>th</sup> - Marv Hoffman will extend greetings on behalf of the American Radio Relay League (ARRL).

## Minutes from March 3, 2020

The meeting opened at 7:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance led by BRARC club President Charles Webb (KN4KWA).

### In Attendance

25 people signed the attendance sheet.

### Attending Visitors

We had two visitors: Ray Dunning (K04BXI) and Carter Sturtevant.

### Club Business

A motion was passed and seconded to accept the minutes of last month's meeting. Another motion and second was accepted to approve the current Treasurer's Report.



# Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club

## Current BRARC Treasurer's Report

BRARC Treasurer's Report

February 1 – February 29, 2020

Balance as of 01/31/20	\$3,398.16
Plus: Dep: Dues – 13 Regular	\$260.00
Total Income	\$260.00
Sub-Total	\$3,658.16
Less: Exp: (none)	\$0.00
Total Expense	\$0.00

**BALANCE AS OF - 02/29/20** \$3,658.16

### ***Motion to Spend \$20.00***

Danny (NA4X) made a motion to spend \$20.00 for refreshments after the next club meeting in April. The motion was seconded and approved by the membership.

## Announcements

### ***Club Membership Dues***

The 2020 dues for the **Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club** are \$20.00 and are now part due. Either send me a check made-out-to BRARC or bring a check or cash to the next meeting. Thanks!

### **Contact Information**

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

### ***Shriner's Organization***

The local Shriner's Club is selling tickets for a gun raffle. Contact Duke (W4DK).

### ***Ham Shack***

Carl Stover (KW4EO) mentioned that the shack has an HF antenna that needs repair. We need to schedule a work party to fix this problem. Any volunteers would be appreciated.

### ***Informal Ham Meeting***

There will be an informal meeting of Hams the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month. Anyone interested in Ham radio can attend. It will be held at the **Ingles** on **Spartanburg Road** (across from Harris Tweeter) in **Hendersonville**. Time: 9:00 AM, Saturday, March 21st. Hope to see you there!

### ***Packet Bulletin Board***

There is a new packet bulleting board on the 146.640 repeater (KK4TWW- 4). This is an Open Bulletin Board for all to use. Feel free to join the fun.

### ***Slow Scan TV***



# Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club

There is a Slow Scan TV Net each Sunday night after the BRARC Net at approximately 9:00 PM each Sunday. All it takes is free software like MMSSTV for Windows, or MultiScan 3B for Mac and a radio with a sound card interface to a computer or cell phone.

## QSO Party Results

To those who are interested I have attached a summary of how we did in the NC QSO Party. Very tough conditions. Very noisy. We really did not get many NC Counties until late in the evening. Steve completed the spelling bee all by himself on CW. He had a really nice radio. I set up a 80 meter long wire antenna just running across the bushes in front of the big house at maybe 5' high and it actually performed very well. Also the big loop did well but everything was very noisy. I wish for a better radio that could utilize a listening antenna along with a transmitting antenna. We had five operators. One was not a ham. Overall it got to be a lot more fun both Saturday and Sunday evenings.

Danny (NA4X)

## ***W4YK's Contest Summary Report for NCQP***

Created by N3FJP's North Carolina QSO Party Contest Log  
Version 2.8 [www.n3fjp.com](http://www.n3fjp.com)

Total Contacts = 404  
Total Points = 93,916

Operating Period: 2020/03/01 15:07 - 2020/03/02 00:46

- Total op time (breaks > 30 min deducted): 7:16:00
- Total op time (breaks > 60 min deducted): 9:39:00
- Avg Qs/Hr (breaks > 30 min deducted): 55.6

## **Total Contacts by Band and Mode:**

<b>Band</b>	<b>CW</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Digital</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Percent</b>
80	41	97	0	138	34
40	22	192	0	214	53
20	15	37	0	52	13
<b>Total</b>	78	326	0	404	100



# Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club

## Total Contacts by State \ Prov:

State	Total	Percent	State	Total	Percent
AB	1	0	ND	1	0
AK	1	0	NH	3	1
AL	3	1	NJ	12	3
AR	3	1	NY	18	4
AZ	1	0	OH	25	6
CA	3	1	PA	34	8
CO	4	1	RI	1	0
CT	6	1	SC	9	2
DE	6	1	SD	2	0
FL	13	3	TN	14	3
GA	11	3	TX	4	1
ID	1	0	VA	20	5
IL	9	2	VT	1	0
State	Total	Percent	State	Total	Percent
IN	6	1	WA	4	1
KS	2	0	WI		
KY	2	0	WV	17	4
MA	3	1	WY	3	1
MD	16	4			
	15	4			
ME	2	0			
MI	10	2			
MN	6	1	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>41</b>	
MO	6	1			
MS	2	0			

## Total Contacts by Country:

COUNTRY	TOTAL	PERCENT
Alaska	1	0
Canada	10	2
Northern Ireland	1	0
Puerto Rico	1	0
Spain	1	0
Sweden	1	0
USA	389	96

**Total = 7 countries**



# Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club

**Total DX Miles (QSOs in USA not counted) = 28,891**

- Average miles per DX QSO = 1,926
- Average bearing to the entities worked in each continent.
- QSOs in USA not counted.

## Total Contacts by Continent:

Content	Total	Percent
NA	401	99
EU	3	1
Total = 2		

## Total Contacts by CQ Zone:

CQ Zone	Total	Percent
05	287	69
04	105	26
03	14	3
	3	1
	2	0
01	1	0
08	1	0
<b>Total = 6</b>		

## Total Contacts by County:

County	Total	Percent	County	Total	Percent
NC Alamance	1	0	NC Harnett	1	0
NC Alamance	2	0	NC HARnett	1	0
NC Alexander	1	0	NC Henderson	1	0
NC Ashe	2	0	NC HENderson	2	0
NC AVERY	1	0	NC JOHnston	1	0
NC Bertie	1	0	NC LINcoln	1	0
NC Bladen	1	0	NC LINCOLN	1	0
NC BLADEN	1	0	NC Macon	1	0
NC BRUnswick	1	0	NC MADison	2	0
NC Brunswick	3	1	NC MCDowell	2	0
NC BUNCOMBE	1	0	NC MECKlenburg	2	0
NC BUNcombe	3	1	NC Onslo	2	0
NC Buncombe	6	1	NC ONSlow	2	0
NC BURKE	1	0	NC ORANGE	1	0



# Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club

NC CABarrus	2	0	NC Orange	3	1
NC CALdwell	1	0	NC Pasquotank	2	0
NC Carteret	2	0	NC Perquimans	2	0
NC Catawba	1	0	NC PERson	1	0
NC Chowan	1	0	NC PITT	1	0
NC Cleveland	1	0	NC RANDolph	2	0
NC DARE	1	0	NC Richmond	2	0
NC Dare	2	0	NC ROCKingham	1	0
NC DAVie	1	0	NC Rutherford	3	1
NC DURham	1	0	NC STANly	1	0
NC FORsyth	1	0	NC STANLY	1	0
NC Forsyth	2	0	NC STOKES	1	0
NC FRANKlin	1	0	NC Stokes	2	0
NC FRANKLIN	1	0	NC Transylvania	1	0
NC Franklin	2	0	NC WAKE	3	1
NC Gates	1	0	NC Wake	8	2
NC Greene	1	0	NC Wilson	1	0
NC Guilford	1	0			

Total = 63

## PRESENTATION

There was no formal presentation. Instead we broke-down into four groups and brainstormed several ideas to decide how to improve the club and what activities we should strive to achieve. This proved to be very productive.

## 50/50 Drawing

There was no drawing.

## Meeting Ended

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Minutes submitted respectfully by Doug Davis (KJ4WWN).



### Calendar of Events for 2020

Here are some notable dates:

Date	Description
April 7, 2020	<b>BRARC Meeting;</b> Held at <i>Jackson Park</i> in Hendersonville, NC. Time 7:00 PM. In the case of inclement weather: We do <b>NOT</b> meet when <i>Blue Ridge College</i> is closed.
March 21 <sup>st</sup> , 2020	<b>Informal Ham Meeting-</b> Place: Ingles, 625 Spartanburg Highway (closest to Fresh Market & across from Harris Teeter.) We plan on doing this every 3rd Saturday each month.

### For Sale

**Gator Box – Type GR-65 Standard** shallow rack case. Excellent condition. Includes on shelf installed. H = 13 ½” x W = 22” x D = 14 ½”. Contact Bob Felt 703-915-2796 or email: W4RYF@arrl.net.

=====

Stuff for Sale by Charles (KN4KWA) 828-698-1035

- **Kenwood PS50 Power supply** 20a—great shape. \$120
- **Alinco DR-M06 Mobile 6m** rig—original box- Mount- hardware- older radio but has been in the box – works well with local 6m repeater. \$100 –
- **HP Small form factor PC** with Monitor (3) – Win 10 4 gig Ram 300 gig hard drive-\$60 each. These are older PC’s (originally Win 7) but would be fine for most digital ops- internet - spare etc.

### Popular Ham Radio Nets

#### FM Nets

BRARC Net (W4YK)	146.640 MHZ/T91.5	Sunday 8:00 PM
**Slow Scan Net	146.640 MHZ/T91.5	Sunday 9:00 PM
Henderson County ARES Net	146.640 MHz / T91.5	Wednesday 9:00 PM
Oasis Shrine Net	145.190 MHz	Sunday 9:00 PM
KI4ZEK Net	145.190 MHz	Thursday 8:30 PM
AmRRON CPN Preparedness	145.190 MHz	Wednesday 8:30 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/ T91.5	Monday 9:00 PM



# Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club

Buncombe ARES Net	146.910 MHz / T91.5	Wednesday 9:00 PM
Transylvania ARC Net	147.135 MHz	Thursday 8:00 PM
Anderson Radio Club Net	146.790 MHz	Daily 8:30 PM
<b>6 Meter Net</b>		
6 Meter Net	53.130 MHz/T 100	Friday 9:00 PM
<b>220 NETS</b>		
Mount Mitchell 220 Net	224.540 MHz	Monday 8:00 PM

## HF Nets

K4UUQ Morning Net	7.225.5 MHz (SSB)	Mon-Sat 7:00 AM
QCWA Chapter 76	3.636 MHz (SSB)	Saturday 8:45 AM
The American Preparedness Radio Network (TAPRN)	3.818 MHz or 7.24 MHz	Sundays 9:00 PM
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
Get Up and Go Net	28.350/28.360 MHz	Sunday 9:00 PM
SATURN Net	14.265 MHz (SSB)	Daily 10:00 AM

## Simplex Nets

80 Meter Simplex Net	3.843 MHz	Thursday 9:30 PM
WCARS Simplex Net	147.525 MHz	Tuesday 8:30 PM

## Digital Mobil Radio Nets

DMR Net	WNC TalkGroup	Thursday 8:30 PM
---------	---------------	------------------

## **Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club (BRARC)**

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 (BRARC)* 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 (Federal Emergency Management Agency)*. 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.

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, and the Fletcher Flier.





## Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club

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 8 days of each month in order to meet publication deadlines. Please send your ASCII 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	Charles Webb	KN4KWA	828-698-1035	<a href="mailto:cwebb@hville.net">cwebb@hville.net</a>
Vice President	James Reed	KK4JFO	828-698-3609	<a href="mailto:jshreed@bellsouth.net">jshreed@bellsouth.net</a>
Treas./Member.	Steve Smith	KC5F	828-489-6637	<a href="mailto:kc5f@arrl.net">kc5f@arrl.net</a>
Secretary	Doug Davis	KJ4WWN	828-685-1291	<a href="mailto:themtns@yahoo.com">themtns@yahoo.com</a>