

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



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

## The PREZ Says

The Saturday morning get together is virtual!. See the section on *Virtual Streaming Meeting*.

**Field Day**—I still don't know for sure, but let's plan on using Jackson Park. Please email me if you can help...there is no pressure on any member that does not want to participate.

**SSTV** David Day has done such a deep dive - not sure if he will make it back (SSTV net Sunday after the club net)...

Charles Webb (KN4KWA)

## Minutes from May, 2020

The meeting opened at 7:01 PM led by BRARC club President Charles Webb (KN4KWA) with the pledge of Alligence. It was another virtual meeting.

### In Attendance

22 people attended as listed in the ZOOM "*Participants List*."

### 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

April 1 – April 30, 2020

|                                     |             |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| Balance as of 03/31/20              | \$ 3,787.16 |
| Plus: Dep: Dues – 1 Regular         | \$ 20.00    |
| Total Income                        | \$ 20.00    |
| Sub-Total                           | \$ 3,807.16 |
| Less: Exp: ARRL Equipment Insurance | \$ 64.33    |
| Total Expense                       | \$ 64.33    |
| BALANCE AS OF 04/30/20              | \$ 3,742.83 |

## Announcements

### **BRARC Streaming Meetings**

All future *Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club* (BRARC) meetings will be virtual until the pandemic is over. Anyone is welcome to join our monthly meetings. Here's what you need:

- Free download of ZOOM software: <https://zoom.us/download> (Scroll for all operating systems)
- Internet connection
- A computer device such as a phone, tablet or laptop

### **Directions on Logging into the meeting:**

- 1) Install ZOOM software onto your device.
- 2) At meeting time (7:00 PM the 1st Tuesday each month) open ZOOM.
- 3) Click the "Join" icon & the "Join Meeting" dialog displays.
- 4) Enter the Meeting ID: **915-464-442** & click "Join."
- 5) Enter the password (*if required*) noting case sensitivity for characters. The "Waiting for the host to start this meeting" dialog displays.
- 6) Then the system displays "Waiting" until you are accepted into the meeting.

### **Club Membership Dues**

2020 dues for the **Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club** (BRARC) are \$20 and are now past due. I will email those who have not yet renewed to remind them. Send me a check made out to BRARC if you wish to renew. (Note that 5 checks included in our income in March and April have not yet been deposited due to the Stay Home orders, but I have you all listed as renewed on the roster.)

Thanks!

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

***Virtual Informal Ham Meeting***

The informal meeting of Hams is this Saturday at 9:00 AM on ZOOM.

***DX & Contest Convention***

Hello from W4DXCC 16 DX and Contest Convention. This is our 16th year! The *Mainstay Suites and Convention Center* will be ready to host the W4DXCC DX and Contest Convention for 2020 September 25th-26th.

***Synopsis***

- Friday September 25th is the *Ham Radio Boot camp*. If you are new to some of the new digital modes like FT8-FT4, you won't want to miss the Boot camp.
  - Saturday September 26th is the *Main Convention* with six presenters.
  - All of the leading radio and equipment manufacturers will be setup in the lobby with the latest gear. You can have a one-on-one with reps to ask questions.
  - There will be a fully operational Ham Shack setup.
  - There will be VE Testing on Saturday for those interested.
- Online ticket ordering opens May 15th. <http://w4dxcc.com> Admission includes snacks and drinks during Saturdays session and Lunch. There is also an evening banquet that you can attend.

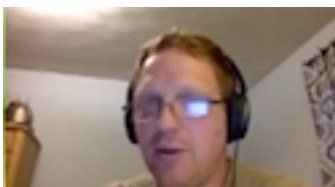
Dave Anderson (K4SV) Convention leader  
Dave@w4dxcc.com

***Slow Scan TV***

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 device. There are several participants and they all contribute to a fun way of using Ham radio.

**PRESENTATION**

The formal presentation was on ***A New Era in Portable SDR DXing*** presented by Thomas Witherspoon (K4SWL).



Thomas Witherspoon

The presentation included discussion on how to build a magnetic loop antenna. It was quite detailed & most enjoyable.



## Meeting Ended

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Minutes submitted respectfully by Doug Davis (KJ4WWN).

## Calendar of Events for 2020

Here are some notable dates:

| Date                 | Description   |
|----------------------|---|
| June, 2020           | <b>BRARC Meeting;</b> All meetings at Jackson Park are closed until further notice. They will be held as virtual meetings because of the pandemic. See details in this issue on how to login. |
| <b>This Saturday</b> | <b>Informal Ham Meeting-</b> The informal meeting is now virtual. See details in this issue.  |
| <b>June 7, 2020</b>  | <b>Western Carolina Flier</b> The <i>Western Carolina Flyer</i> bike ride has been canceled for 2020.   |

## For Sale

I now have an assortment of desktop PC's all running Windows 10 with memory up to 8 gigs of RAM. Some have 3 or 4 gigs of RAM. A few have a "real" serial ports and LPT port. From \$25 to \$175 (the more expensive are Dell Optiplex Business Class PC's). Let me know if you are interested. Charles Webb: [cwebb@hville.net](mailto:cwebb@hville.net)

## 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    |
| 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     |



# Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club

|                           |                  |                  |
|---------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| <b>6 Meter Net</b>        |                  |                  |
| 6 Meter Net               | 53.130 MHZ/T 100 | Friday 9:00 PM   |
| <b>220 NETS</b>           |                  |                  |
| Mount Pisgah 220 Thur Net | 224.260 MHz      | Thursday 8:00 PM |
| 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.

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 Amateur Radio Club

## 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>         |