



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



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

The PREZ Says

Our “modified” scaled-down **Field Day** has been approved by *Parks and Recreation* for Jackson Park on June 27 to 28th. So for those who want to participate on-site we can and for those who want to operate from home, it can count towards the clubs numbers - that works too!! More information to come...

We also discussed the possibility of doing a “class” for Parks and Rec day camps (if they have them) – A half day STEM class of some sorts.. Be thinking about a hands on- or group- activity we can present... The last item discussed was a more formal- in writing agreement to continue to use the Shack and resources in the park.. Community Service will certainly be a part of what we propose..

Charles Webb (KN4KWA)

Minutes from June 2, 2020

The minutes for the June meeting were not recorded. However, the meeting did occur as a virtual meeting and had approximately 12 attendees. The main focus was on *Field Day*.

Club Business

Current BRARC Treasurer’s Report

BRARC Treasurer’s Report	
Balance as of 05/30/20	\$3,742.83
Plus: Dep: Dues – 8 Regular	\$160.00
Total Income	\$160.00
Sub-Total	\$3,902.83
Less: Exp: (none)	\$0.00
Total Expense	\$0.00
BALANCE AS OF 05/31/20	\$3,902.83



Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club

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.

DMR (Digital Mobil Radio) Net

Here in Western North Carolina, we are fortunate to have a good DMR system with the WNC DNR network. This network ties repeaters in Asheville, Franklin, Gastonia, Hendersonville, Marion, Morganton, and Waynesville together via the Internet. If you own a DMR radio, and can access one of these repeaters, it is possible to participate in DMR nets every Monday night at 7:30PM on the *WNC LOCAL talk group*, and every Thursday night at 8:30PM on the *WNC Net talk group*.

Participating in these nets is a good way to learn about DMR and how it works. A number of BRARC members routinely participate in these nets and can help you get started DMR communications. For more information on the WNC DMR system, a good place to start is at the following: <http://wncdmr.net>

Zoom Training Session

On Wednesday, June 24 at 7:00 PM, there will be a BRARC Zoom training session for members interested in participating in ***Field Day*** from their home stations. The training will cover configuration and use of the WSJT-X field day mode for FT8 contacts and logging of field day contacts made from home. We will also cover N3FJP logging for those who may be using phone to make contacts. **The Zoom login number is 915-464-442. See login directions above.**

The ARRL has given field day participating clubs a one year waiver on physical attendance at the Jackson Park location which means you can participate from home if you wish. Even if you can only give an hour or two of your time at home to make contacts, it can make a big difference in our overall club performance and scores. Please plan on attending.



Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club

Baofeng Code Plug

For *Baofeng Digital Radio* users: The 'code plug' for *Baofeng* radios that includes the complete WNC network has been updated. It now includes several new features in the *WIFI* zone for those who are connecting their radios through *Pi-Star* hotspots. Several popular DMR channels have been added to the *WIFI Zone* and a new channel labeled TalkGroup 6 gives the ability for cross-platform communication between DMR, Yaesu System Fusion, and D-Star users. Complete details and the download of the new code plug are available at <https://hamsignal.com/blog/baofeng-bf-5r-rd-5r-and-dm-9hx-programming>

Also, if there is enough interest on the part of the club membership, I'd be glad to put together a training session on setting up and using a *WIFI* hotspot. They are very powerful and will extend the range of all digital radios.

73

David Day (N1DAY)

Field Day Operations

We need everyone in our club making contacts. You have two options.

1. We will have a phone station and I believe a digital station set up at Jackson Park where you can come join us. There we will be *W4YK*.
2. The other option is to work from your home. If you are working from home most likely your class is going to be **1D** and your location will be **NC**. Therefore your exchange is **1D NC**. Use your own call sign and stay within your band limits.

Look up the field day rules at www.arrl.org or feel free to call me for help at 329-8863. You will need to keep a log of your contacts. This can be done on paper or you can use *N1MM* which is free. You will need to report your information to:

<https://field-day.arrl.org/fdentry.php>

during the week after the event. When you go this address and click on "enter data" and you will find a form with fill-in the blank questions. One of those blanks will be your club name. Put in "Blue Ridge ARC". I will also try to monitor 146.640 Mhz if you have questions. David is going to do a Zoom class next Wednesday at 7:00 pm on FT8. We plan to set up antennas Friday at 5:00 PM. We will be much more limited in size this year so we will gather at 9:00 AM on the 27th to set up the rest of the equipment.

Also please email me some Radiogram messages to your friends. Just be sure to include their email address.

Please, please if you do not feel good do not come out. Most of all have fun.

Danny (NA4X)



Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club

FM Simplex NET Proposal

I would like to propose a new *Simplex Net*. What I propose we do is this...

- **Net** – Two times per month - Simplex 2M
- **Goal** - To see how far out we can get through relays and to successfully relay a simple message to the most distant station out and back.
- **Format** - The format would be to check in all stations per normal net procedures, comments etc... and then;
 1. Ask for relay stations into net control and log their distance...and send a simple message out and back
 2. See if we can get the relay station to obtain another relay station and have a double relay in with successful message transmission, than a triple relay etc..
 3. From net to net, keep track of how far out we've gone from net control relays and attempt to beat our previous distance record.

Anyone up for this? I wonder how far and through how many stations we could relay a message????

73
David Day (N1DAY)

Calendar of Events for 2020

Here are some notable dates:

Date	Description
July 7, 2020	BRARC Meeting; 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.
June 24, 2020	Training Session: Zoom training on how to use the logging software and configuration & use of WSJT. Time: 7:00 PM.
June 27 to 28th	Field Day: Location: Jackson Park, with social distancing in place.



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 8:00 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
6 Meter Net		
6 Meter Net	53.130 MHz/T 100	Friday 9:00 PM
220 NETS		
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
Simplex 2 Meter Net	146.640 Y 91.5	TBA

Digital Mobil Radio Nets

DMR Net	WNC Net Talk Group	Thursday 8:30 PM
DMR Net	WNC Local Talk Group	Monday 7:30 PM



Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club

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 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.

Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club Officers

Title	Name	Call Sign	Phone	Email
President	Charles Webb	KN4KWA	828-698-1035	cwebb@hville.net
Vice President	James Reed	KK4JFO	828-698-3609	jshreed@bellsouth.net
Treas./Member.	Steve Smith	KC5F	828-489-6637	kc5f@arrl.net
Secretary	Doug Davis	KJ4WWN	828-685-1291	themtns@yahoo.com