



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



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

### **The PREZ Says**

There were no new nominations for Club Officers. The current officers have agreed to remain for another two years.

**At Large Members** will remain. They are: Carl Stover (KW4EO), and Martin Harris (W4FOT). The **Ex Officio** role will be filled by Tim Reimers (KA4LFP) for this Term.

If you want to become more involved with the club please contact an officer. We're hoping to get things back on track once the virus stuff calms down. Community outreach and "classes" would be wonderful to be able to get going again.

I'm looking for ideas/volunteers on a "fun" activity/presentation for the December meeting - Any ideas?

Charles Webb (KN4KWA)

### **Minutes from November, 2020**

The monthly meeting of the **Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club (BRARC)** was another virtual meeting because of the pandemic restrictions. The meeting started at 7:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance

#### **In Attendance**

19 people attended as listed in the ZOOM "Participants List."



## Club Business

### BRARC Treasurer's Report

October 1 – October 31, 2020

Balance as of 09/30/20	\$ 3,917.83
Plus: Dep: (none)	\$ 0.00
Total Income	\$ 0.00
Sub-Total	\$ 3,917.83
Less: Exp: (none)	\$ 0.00
Total Expense	\$ 0.00
BALANCE AS OF 10/31/20	\$ 3,917.83

This report was approved by the attending members.

## Meeting Minutes

October's minutes were approved by the membership.

## Announcements

### *New Officers Elected*

Current Board Members were all re-elected. The motion was seconded and the vote passed unanimously. Club Officers are as follows:

- **President** – Charles Webb, (KN4KWA), [cwebb@hville.net](mailto:cwebb@hville.net)
- **Vice President** – (KK4JFO), [jshreed@bellsouth.net](mailto:jshreed@bellsouth.net)
- **Secretary** – Doug Davis (KJ4WWN), [themtns@yahoo.com](mailto:themtns@yahoo.com)
- **Treasurer** – (KC5F), [kc5f@arrl.net](mailto:kc5f@arrl.net)
- **Members At Large** - TBD

### *Christmas Dinner*

There will be no *Christmas Dinner* this year due to the lack of interest (mainly because of the pandemic and restaurant restrictions).

### *Hendersonville Christmas Parade*

We received notice that the Christmas Parade is cancelled this year so we won't need any volunteers.

### *Informal Breakfast Meeting Returns*

We're starting up an informal breakfast gathering of Hams again for anyone interested.

- *Schedule:* 3rd Saturday of each month at 9:00 AM starting THIS MONTH (November 21, 2020). Then December 19, 2020 etc.
- *Location:* Ingles - near the Fresh Market - Address; 625 Spartanburg Hwy, Hendersonville, NC 28792.



## Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club

No agenda - just fellowship - plenty of tables to distance - please do not attend if you would be uncomfortable or at risk.

### ***Our Own Balloon Launch?***

After the presentation on ***Balloon Launching*** a motion was passed to form a committee to investigate the Club's possible involvement in launching our own balloon with radio tracking installed and perhaps (***Weak Signal Propagation Repeater - WSPR***). Balloons of this type have actually traveled around the globe. We would like to investigate the expense and find-out what can be installed, to perhaps, involve all Ham operators around the world. If you are interested in this as a club project, please contact our club President, Charles (KN4KWA). [cwebb@hville.net](mailto:cwebb@hville.net)

### ***Silent Auction***

The results of the Silent Auction are as follows:

- **Kenwood TS-530** – Sold for \$56.00
- **Ten Tec Corsair II** – Sold for \$180.00
- **Butternut Antenna** - Sold for \$50.00
- **Kenwood TS-440S** – Sold for \$200.00

So the Club raised \$486.00 from the auction. Thanks for those who participated & thanks for James (KK4JFO) for being our auctioneer.

### ***Non-Censored Social Networking Page***

Here is another social networking page that is less intrusive than *FaceBook*:

<https://mewe.com/join/blueridgeamateurradioclub-hendersonvillenc>

The Club is also looking at a completely "*private*" option for the club as well. The unchecked censorship and insertion of unwelcome posts on social media by the network owners is a threat to any organization and contrary to democratic ideals. Charles (KN4KWA).

### ***BRARC Streaming Meetings***

All future *Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club* (BRARC) meetings will be virtual until the state opens up officially. 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*."



# Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club

- 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.

## Work Party Completed the Work

Carl (KW4EO) and Martin (W4FOT) and several others participated in the work party on **Bear Wallow Mountain** to repair the 6 meter antenna and coax connectors. They also installed a 900 MHZ repeater for everyone’s use. A BIG THANKS to all those who worked on it. These repeaters sound GREAT!

## New Digital Net

Our apology for incorrect information on the reflector address in last month’s Echo.

DMR radio users: If you have a digital hot spot set up locally, you can participate in a new digital net (Zack’s WNC Net [KM4BLG]) each Wednesday at 9:00 PM. It uses the *DMR>System Fusion* or *Yaesu System Fusion Western North Carolina Reflector* and you should connect to the Yaesu YSF 24157 reflector.

## PRESENTATION

The presentation was divided into three separate presentations. They were as follows:

- **The Bear Wallow Repeaters** – Presented by Martin Harris (W4FOT)
- **Balloon Tracking** – Presented by Zack Thompson (KM4BLG)
- **The New 900 Mhz Analog Repeater** – Presented by Martin Harris (W4FOT)

These presentations were extremely informative and were appreciated by all.

## Meeting Ended

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.  
Minutes submitted respectfully by Doug Davis (KJ4WWN).

## Calendar of Events for 2020

Here are some notable dates:

Date	Description
<b>December 8, 2020</b>	<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>November 21, 2020</b>	<b>Informal Breakfast - Ingles - near the Fresh Market - Address; 625 Spartanburg Hwy, Hendersonville, NC</b>



# Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club

	28792. Time: 9:00 AM
<b>January 30, 2021 - January 31 2021</b>	<b>Winter Field Day</b> - Details are TBD at this point in time.

## For Sale

DSI Frequency Counter Model 5600A. 50 Hz to 512 Mhz. No probes.  
 With "wall wart" power supply. \$50. Duke ([W4DK@arrl.net](mailto:W4DK@arrl.net)).

## Popular Ham Radio Nets

### FM Nets

BRARC Net (W4YK)	146.640 MHz/T91.5	Sunday 8:00 PM
Slow Scan TV Net	146.640 MHz/T91.5	Sunday 9:00 PM
Slow Scan TV Net	146.790 MHz (no tone)	Saturday 9:15 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
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
<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



# Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club

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
**WNC Net <b>(NEW)</b>	WNC System Fusion Reflector YS24157	Wednesday 9:00 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 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

## 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>