



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



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

THE PREZ SAYS

ARRL NC Section Manager Marvin Hoffman (WA4NC) will provide the presentation at our March 1st meeting. See you there, and at the informal meeting on Saturday, February 19th!

Bill Gunn (KB2GUN)

MEETING MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY, 2022

The February 1st meeting of the *Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club (BRARC)* was held in person and streamed online via Zoom, and began shortly after 7:00pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. After problems getting the club's Zoom account running, we switched to Charles Webb's personal account. Martin Harris announced it on the 146.64 repeater and the club webpage was updated with a note. The minutes from the January meeting were approved by the membership.

ATTENDANCE

20 Full Members attended (11 in person and 9 online via Zoom), plus 1 guest (online).

TREASURER'S REPORT

January 1 – January 31, 2022

Balance as of 12/31/21		\$ 5,892.43
Plus: Dep: 15x 2022 dues @ \$20	\$ 300.00	
1 dues @ \$10	<u>10.00</u>	
	Total Income	\$ 310.00
	Sub-Total	\$ 6,202.43
Less: Exp: NC QSO Party award	\$ 50.00	
	Total Expense	\$ 50.00
	BALANCE AS OF 01/31/22	\$ 6,152.43

ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Henderson County ARES Coordinator

Scott Sutton (N4LNC) is the new Henderson County Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) Emergency Coordinator. ARES meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at the Henderson County Athletics & Activity Center at 708 S Grove St from 6:30-8:00pm. They also



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have a net each Wednesday at 9:00pm on the 146.64 repeater. Their website is <http://nc4hc.us/> They would love to have all of us involved. To join ARES you'll need to complete four short FEMA courses, all free and available online. Winlink, tonight's meeting topic, is key to their service. With it, emails, spreadsheets and small pictures can be sent to served agencies. As well, ICS forms are available and encouraged to ensure interoperability between agencies as "we're all speaking the same language."

BUSINESS

Winter Field Day

W4YK had a limited presence in the 2022 Winter Field Day on January 29th & 30th. Because of the weather, we had to cancel our antenna repair party on Saturday morning, and we effectively only had one antenna available during the contest. (We will reschedule the antenna repair party for a nicer weekend!) We had 88 CW QSOs on 3 bands and 23 SSB QSOs on 1 band with no bonus points, for a claimed score of 1592. If you operated from home and still have to submit your score, you have until March 1st. In your submission, be sure that the club line shows this:

CLUB: Blue Ridge ARC

Any other spelling will not count toward the aggregated club score.

PRESENTATION

Dany Rector (NA4X) presented the program, "*What Would You Do If Disaster Struck? Disaster Communications.*" Most disasters strike overnight, without warning. Your first priority needs to be your family. Do you have a family communications plan? If cell service is out, how do you let each other know you're OK? You need to have a predetermined meeting place outside in case of a fire, or at a place like the local fire department in case of a bigger event. For hams, look at the ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Service) band plan to find repeaters you can connect to. But not all will be up or have power for very long.

When local communications are out, Winlink ("Winlink Global Radio Email[®]") comes into play. It's a network of amateur radio and authorized government stations that provide worldwide radio email using radio pathways where the internet is not present. The system is built, operated and administered entirely by licensed ham volunteers. It was started by sailors needing message and other services while at sea without internet. HF operations let you communicate a long way to a variety of gateway stations. You can send emails, files and even pictures, but it is slow and the size of messages is limited. RF propagation will also affect the transmission speed.

Danny set up a demonstration using a small HF transceiver and a short, portable vertical antenna set up just outside the meeting room. He first used peer-to-peer where he connected to another ham directly using his call sign rather than an email address. He then demonstrated using HF to exchange short sample emails with Brandy, N1HO in Florida via Remote Message Servers. (VHF operation is also possible when available, and can be much faster.)

Check out <https://www.winlink.org/> to see some of the other features available, including weather forecasts, forms (like radiograms), news headlines and more.

MEETING ENDED

The meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.

Minutes submitted respectfully by Steve Smith (KC5F), Secretary.



DUES FOR 2022

As of February 13, 2022, 40 people have paid their club dues for 2022. If you are unable to attend a club meeting or breakfast, you may send a check, payable to: B.R.A.R.C. and mail it to the treasurer, Susann Swan, P.O. Box 1951, Hendersonville, NC 28793

(Dues are \$20.00 per year for Full (licensed) and Associate (unlicensed) members. Dues for additional related members in the same household as a Full or Associate member shall be one-half the applicable rate. Dues for full-time students in an accredited school will be one-half the regular rate.)

2022 MEMBER SURVEY

We sent the 2022 Member Survey with last month's email, but only received responses from 11% of our members. The Steering Committee wants to use the survey help plan programs as well as to be of better service to our members. Don't be intimidated if you're only interested in subjects and not offering to present a program or class. We want to know what folks want to learn about. Fill it in with Adobe Reader or just print it, fill it in and take a picture of it. Email it to the Secretary, Steve Smith, at kc5f@bellsouth.net or mail it or bring it to the next meeting.

OUR RENOWNED AND TALENTED TREASURER

Susann Swann (K9FMZ) is not only a financial wizard, she's also a member of the WNC Fibers/Handweavers Guild. Susann has a gorgeous shawl on display in the main gallery of the Southern Highland Craft Guild on the Blue Ridge Parkway in Asheville through May 24th. I saw it on Feb 13th and think it's easily the best of the show. Congratulations, Susann!

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Date	Description
Sat, February 19	Informal Breakfast Get-Together – 9am, Ingles 625 Spartanburg Hwy.
Mon, February 21	ARES Monthly Meeting – 6:30pm, Activity Center, 708 S Grove St.
Sat, February 26	SC QSO Party – From the shack. Contact Danny, NQ4X.
Sun, February 27	NC QSO Party – From the shack. Contact Danny, NQ4X.
Tue, March 1	BRARC Meeting - In person in Jackson Park. In addition, you can still attend virtually. Latest instructions to login are on the BRARC website.

FOR SALE

I am selling my Icom IC-7300. It is in pristine condition in all respects. All standard accessories are included, along with original box and packing materials. Asking \$900.00. A Yaesu FTDX-101D is replacing the IC-7300. It is a more advanced rig that provides my needed features.

Jack Mandelman (K1VT) k1vt@arrl.net

Radio Shack HTX-242 2m 45w mobile w/box, manual, cables. \$40

Bill Gunn (KB2GUN), kb2gunb@yahoo.com



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AREA HAM RADIO NETS

2 METER FM NETS		
BRARC Net (W4YK)	146.640 MHz / T91.5	Sunday 8:00pm
Henderson County ARES Net	146.640 MHz / T91.5	Wednesday 9:00pm
Slow Scan TV Net	146.640 MHz / T91.5	Sunday 9:00pm
6600 Net	145.190 MHz	Saturday 9:00pm
Oasis Shrine Net	145.190 MHz	Sunday 9:00pm
KI4ZEK Net	145.190 MHz	Thursday 8:30pm
Blue Ridge Traffic (SC)	146.610 MHz	Daily 9:00pm
Good Morning Net	146.760 MHz	M-W-F 9:00am
Anderson Radio Club Net	146.790 MHz	Daily 8:30pm
Slow Scan TV Net	146.790 MHz (no tone)	Saturday 9:15pm
WCARS Information Net	146.910 MHz/ T91.5	Monday 9:00pm
Buncombe ARES Net	146.910 MHz / T91.5	Wednesday 9:00pm
Transylvania ARC Net	147.135 MHz	Thursday 8:00pm
WCARS Simplex Net	147.525 MHz	Tuesday 8:30pm
6 METER FM NETS		
6 Meter Net	53.130 MHz / T100	Friday 9:00pm
220 MHz FM NETS		
Mount Pisgah 220 Thur Net	224.260 MHz	Thursday 8:00pm
Mount Mitchell 220 Net	224.540 MHz	Monday 8:00pm
HF NETS		
The American Preparedness Radio Network (TAPRN)	3.818 MHz or 7.24 MHz	Sunday 9:00pm
80 Meter Simplex Net	3.843 MHz	Thursday 9:30pm
NC Evening Net	3.923 MHz	Daily 6:30pm
Tarheel ARES Net	3.923 MHz	Daily 7:30pm
NC Morning Net	3.927 MHz	Daily 7:45am
K4UUQ Morning Net	7.228 MHz	M-Sa 7:00am/Sun 8:00
SATERN Net	14.265 MHz	Daily 10:00am
Get Up and Go Net	28.350/28.360 MHz	Sunday 9:00pm



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DIGITAL MOBILE RADIO NETS		
DMR Net	WNC Net Talk Group	Thursday 8:30pm
DMR Net	WNC Local Talk Group	Monday 7:30pm
WNC Net	WNC System Fusion Refl YS24157	Wednesday 9:00pm
DMR PRN Net	PRN Local Talk Group	Tuesday 8:00pm

BLUE RIDGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB OFFICERS

Title	Name	Call Sign	Phone	Email
PRESIDENT	Bill Gunn	KB2GUN	704-934-1950	kb2gunb@yahoo.com
VICE-PRESIDENT	James Reed	KK4JFO	828-698-3609	jshreed@bellsouth.net
TREASURER	Susann Swan	K9FMZ	828-747-2250	susann93@use.startmail.com
SECRETARY	Steve Smith	KC5F	828-489-6637	kc5f@arrl.net