



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



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

MEETING MINUTES FROM APRIL, 2022

The April 5th 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. The minutes from the March meeting were approved by the membership.

ATTENDANCE

24 Full and Associate Members attended (17 in person and 7 online via Zoom), plus 1 guest (1 in person).

TREASURER'S REPORT

March 1 – March 31, 2022

| | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| Balance as of 02/28/22 | | \$ 6,320.83 |
| Plus: Dep: 7x 2022 dues @ \$20 | \$ 140.00 | |
| | Total Income | \$ 140.00 |
| | Sub-Total | \$ 6,460.83 |
| Less: Exp: ARRL insurance for club equipment | \$ 83.79 | |
| Zoom 1-year subscription | 149.90 | |
| | Total Expense | \$ 233.69 |
| | BALANCE AS OF 03/31/22 | \$ 6,227.14 |

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Hamfests

The Raleigh Hamfest will be April 16. <https://www.rarsfest.org/>

The Greenville TN Hamfest will be April 16. <https://greenvillehamfest.com/>

The WCARS Hamfest will be July 23 in Waynesville. <http://wcars-club.org/>

Items for sale

Ronnie Parham (K2SST) brought items to sell after the meeting.



Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club

BUSINESS

Field Day

ARRL Field Day will be June 25th-26th and probably some setup on Friday, June 24th. Stay tuned for more details, but mark your calendars now to help at this always-fun event. Our June 1st Tuesday meeting (June 7th) will be dedicated to Field Day planning. Be there!

PRESENTATION

Our speaker was BRARC member David Day, N1DAY. His presentation was about “Crystal Radios”, a subject seemingly from the past, but revived this century, with active competitions for building and operating crystal radios. They get their energy out of the air from the signals sent by broadcast transmitters around the world, and don’t need batteries or AC mains power unless audio amplification is necessary. David presented a great history of the transformation of crystal radios over more than a century, and brought along his collection of crystal radios he has built, including the VacuDyne, the Max-Q-Dyne and the TorroiDyne. He also brought one he built to specifications from a 1922 Bureau of Standards document, which works surprisingly well. Check out David’s blog at <https://hamsignal.com/>. A video version of tonight’s presentation called “Crystal Radio: History, Construction and Contesting” can be seen at the link on his blog from 01/29/2022.

MEETING ENDED

The meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

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

SHACK ANTENNAS

We need volunteers and a date for an antenna party to get our shack loops back up and to check our other antennas. At least two of them have sections that are on the ground. We recently had four members help another member get wire two antennas high up in his trees, and need to do the same for the shack. We still have the vertical for HF, but the loops usually work much better. We regularly participate in QSO parties and contests from the shack, so it will be a great help to get our antennas back into good condition.

2022 SURVEY RESULTS

The Steering Committee is using the results of the 2022 Member Interests/Abilities Survey to plan upcoming programs. We had a very low survey return rate, so if you have ideas you’d like to see presented, let us know.

CLUB CLOTHING AND NAMETAGS

The Steering Committee discussed getting T-Shirts for Field Day. Our 2021 shirts were ordered without dates so that they could be reused. We have some of the t-shirts left over from last year, so ask an officer if you’d like one for this year. And if you don’t have a club nametag, the link is on the front page at the <http://radioclub.org/> club website to order yours directly from the vendor, with several magnet/clip/pin/lanyard options available.



TESTING NEWS

The next test session in Mountain Home (Fire Dept) will be May 14th at 10:00am. Please spread the word. For testing appointments on Friday mornings at the Ingles near the Asheville Outlet Stores at 863 Brevard Rd (Hwy 191), contact Randy Harris (KI4VLW) at rtsp71@aol.com

REPEATER “LISTENING” SUGGESTION

Ed, WD8RON sends this suggestion. “I use a scanner that scans all the frequencies. Often, I hear stations "listening" but do not know which repeater they are on since the scanner does not pause very long. It would help if stations would announce the repeater frequency they are "listening" on as well as their call.”

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

| Date | Description |
|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sat, April 16 | Informal Breakfast Get-Together – 9am, Ingles 625 Spartanburg Hwy. |
| Sat, April 16 | Raleigh Hamfest – 8am-3pm NC State Fairgrounds |
| Sat, April 16 | Greeneville (TN) Hamfest – 6am-??? Greene County Fairgrounds |
| Mon, April 18 | ARES Monthly Meeting – 6:30pm, Activity Center, 708 S Grove St. |
| Tue, May 3 | 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

FOR SALE: ASTRON RM-50M linear DC power supply (the RM means "rack mount" so it has two handy handles on the 19" front panel). The 50 is the peak amp rating (it cruises at 37 amps out) 120 VAC Input. Output voltage is a nominal 13.8 VDC internally adjustable. The "M" means "metered", output volts and amps. I'd rather not ship since it weighs in at 50 pounds. Unit is in mint condition. \$1000. Duke W4DK@arrl.net 828-606-7773. **But wait...there's more.....**

It comes attached to a TenTec ORION II 566 AT HF Transceiver. with optional fan kit, an Encoder/key pad 302 (fancy name for a remote multi-function tuning knob) and a TenTec desk mike Model 708 (makes anyone sound good in the pileups). Although many DX entities have been found, I believe many more still exist in the transceiver for a diligent operator . Latest firmware 3.033xd

AREA HAM RADIO NETS

| 2 METER FM NETS | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|
| BRARC Net (W4YK) | 146.640 MHz / T91.5 H'ville | Sunday 8:00pm |
| Henderson County ARES Net | 146.640 MHz / T91.5 H'ville | Wednesday 9:00pm |
| Slow Scan TV Net | 146.640 MHz / T91.5 H'ville | Sunday 9:00pm |
| 6600 Net | 145.190 MHz Mt Mitchell | Saturday 9:00pm |
| Oasis Shrine Net | 145.190 MHz Mt Mitchell | Sunday 9:00pm |
| KI4ZEK Net | 145.190 MHz Mt Mitchell | Thursday 8:30pm |



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| Blue Ridge Traffic (SC) | 146.610 MHz Caesars Head SC | Daily 9:00pm |
| Anderson Radio Club Net | 146.790 MHz Pickens SC | Daily 8:30pm |
| Slow Scan TV Net | 146.790 MHz (no tone) | Saturday 9:15pm |
| Good Morning Net | 146.910 MHz Asheville | M-W-F 9:00am |
| WCARS Information Net | 146.910 MHz/ T91.5 Asheville | Monday 9:00pm |
| Buncombe ARES Net | 146.910 MHz / T91.5 Asheville | Wednesday 9:00pm |
| Transylvania ARC Net | 147.135 MHz Brevard | Thursday 8:00pm |
| WCARS Simplex Net | 147.525 MHz | Tuesday 8:30pm |
| 6 METER FM NETS | | |
| 6 Meter Net | 53.130 MHz / T100 H'ville | Friday 9:00pm |
| 220 MHz FM NETS | | |
| Mount Pisgah 220 Thur Net | 224.260 MHz Mt Pisgah | Thursday 8:00pm |
| Mount Mitchell 220 Net | 224.540 MHz Mt Mitchell | Monday 8:00pm |

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|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 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 |