



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



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

MEETING MINUTES FROM MAY, 2022

The May 3rd 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 April meeting were approved by the membership.

ATTENDANCE

30 Full and Associate Members attended (21 in person and 9 online via Zoom), plus 2 guests (1 in person and 1 online).

TREASURER’S REPORT

April 1 – April 30, 2022

| | | |
|---|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| Balance as of 03/31/22 | | \$ 6,227.14 |
| Plus: Dep: 4x 2022 dues @ \$20 | \$ 80.00 | |
| | Total Income | \$ 80.00 |
| | Sub-Total | \$ 6,307.14 |
| Less: Exp: Power cord for shack computer | \$ 22.41 | |
| | Total Expense | \$ 22.41 |
| | BALANCE AS OF 04/30/22 | \$ 6,284.73 |

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Events

Road Show Swapfest & Fox Hunt. 8:30am Saturday, May 14th at Janitzio Mexican Restaurant at 1053 Spartanburg Hwy in Hendersonville. BRARC has equipment we use for fox hunt demonstrations, so borrow some and try it out! (See Charles Webb, Shack Manager, cwebb@hville.net)

Field Day! June 25th/26th at Jackson Park, near the club shack.

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



Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club

BUSINESS

WNC Flyer

The WNC Flyer will be Sunday, June 5th. It's always a lot of fun, and they really appreciate our support, with around 1000 cyclists on 4 different rides ranging from 33 to 100 miles. To volunteer, contact Danny (NA4X) at rectordl@bellsouth.net.

Shack Antennas

We still 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.

ARRL Digital Contest

The ARRL Digital Contest will be June 4th-5th with the club taking park from the shack on Saturday. Join Danny (NA4X) at the shack where we'll be running FT8/FT4 starting at 2:00pm. (Danny can't be there Sunday due to the WNC Flyer that day.)

Field Day

ARRL Field Day will be June 25th-26th with setup on Friday, June 24th. Our June 1st meeting will be dedicated to Field Day planning. Think about what positions you might be able to fill, and come to the meeting, our last before Field Day. We will also have a presentation on the basics of Field Day, for new folks and as a refresher for all of us.

PARI Field Trip

Ronnie Parham (K2SST) would like to set up a BRARC tour of PARI – the Pisgah Astronomical Research Institute west of Brevard. <https://www.pari.edu/> Members of the club went there during an open house in 2014, but this would be a private tour of all areas now viewable, including some new exhibits. September is the next time dates are available.

PRESENTATION

Jeff Sibley (N4XEG) presented an interesting program he titled, “Solar Overview”. It covered in depth his history and suggestions concerning setting up and running a high-quality solar energy system to run an RV off-the-grid for extended periods, including suggestions for running amateur radios on solar power. A research scientist, Jeff retired to full-time RV living, the last 3 years totally solar-powered. They can stay 2-1/2 to 3 weeks at one site without “shore power”, the only reason to move being the limits of their grey-water capacity. Their power system has two legs, one with 400Ah of batteries and 1600W of solar panels, to cover most of their needs. The second leg is used only when they have shore power, and runs the heat, air conditioning and washer/dryer. Jeff shared detailed information on Defining your use case, Designing the system and the Equipment he uses. He has offered to share his presentation, and we will put it onto the website when it's updated with a few changes.

MEETING ENDED

The meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

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



CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

| Date | Description |
|--------------|---|
| Mon, May 16 | ARES Monthly Meeting – 6:30pm, Activity Center, 708 S Grove St. |
| Sat, May 21 | Informal Breakfast Get-Together – 9am, Ingles 625 Spartanburg Hwy. |
| Sat, June 4 | ARRL Digital Contest – 2pm at the club shack |
| Sun, June 5 | WNC Flyer – Communications Support for a great bicycle event |
| Tue, June 7 | BRARC Meeting - In person in Jackson Park. In addition, you can still attend virtually. Latest instructions to login are on the BRARC website. |
| June 25 - 26 | Field Day! |

FOR SALE

(No items for sale this month)

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 |
| 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 |



Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Club

| 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 |

| 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 |