

# THE LIVE WIRE

The Monthly Publication of the Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Society, Inc.

## July 2011

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### BRARS OFFICERS

Pres. Wyatt Miler, KJ4CTD  
V. Pres. Josh Owings, KG4PFJ  
Sec. Rick Bagwell, KD4DRA  
Treas. Robert Martin, K4SCX

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bob Taylor, N3PT  
Phil Robinson, KG4FQG  
Vic Gallo, WA2PJZ  
Johnny Allison, WD4DYH

### CLUB & BOARD

**MEETING SCHEDULE**  
(BOD at 6:15 ,Club at 7:30)

## 2011

Jan. 3	Feb. 7
March 7	April 4
May 2	June 6
<b>NO MEETING</b>	Aug. 1
Sept. 5	Oct. 3
Nov. 7	Dec. 5



Who does this shack belong to ? (answer inside live wire)

**SEND ME A PICTURE OF YOUR SHACK** FOR YOUR, "LIVE WIRE"



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### Field Day 2011:

See More Pictures [Click HERE](#) and page 5 for Full info on Field Day

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Did you Know that we are also on Facebook  
Search: Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Society

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## Program for July



Celebrating the 4th will be the program at my House, Hope you have a great **Independence Day !!**

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### **Ham License Testing Sessions**

**Administered by Volunteer Examiners (VE)'s**

**For *all* tests you should arrive at least 15 minutes early  
and bring the following:**

**Photo ID (such as Drivers License or State ID)**

Original and photocopy of your current Radio License, if applicable  
(as well as any CSCE's you will present for verification for upgrades)  
Social Security Card or FCC-issued Registration Number

***Good Luck!***

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#### **Greenville SC**

3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month  
Testing begins at 8:30 AM  
Red Cross Building  
940 Grove Rd. (near G'ville Memorial Hospital)  
Fee is \$10.00  
Contact: [Steve Shaffer @ af4rn@bellsouth.net](mailto:Steve Shaffer @ af4rn@bellsouth.net)  
[Map Here](#)

#### **Spartanburg SC**

2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every even numbered month  
Testing begins at 7 PM  
Red Cross Building  
104 Garner Road (off Pine St. -US176)  
Fee is \$ 15.00  
Contact: [Fritz, W4NTO @ 864-583-6716](mailto:Fritz, W4NTO @ 864-583-6716)  
[Map Here](#)

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### **THE AUGUST MEETING**

The meeting will be held at Greenville Memorial Hospital, on Grove Road down the road from Red Cross  
Listen to the net and check the Facebook page as we get closer to the August Meeting for more Info.

**HAPPY 4th of JULY !!!**

## THE BLUE RIDGE 2 METER NET MONTHLY TOTALS FOR JUNE 2011

**TOTAL CONTACTS 2172**

**SESSIONS 30**

**TRAFFIC 50**

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KB0KBJ,(STEVE) 82  
K4SCX,(ROBERT) 125  
KI4DOS,(GARY) 413  
KG4FQG,(PHIL) 285

AJ4RK,(RUSTY) 316  
W4DJW,(DAVE) 64

KF4ZCC,(MIKE) 300  
K4SUG,(RAY) 361  
KJ4RQZ,(NATHAN) 119  
WD4CYM,(KAREN) 107

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**CHECK IN.. TO HEAR WHATS HAPPENING, AND RAGCHEW ON THE LOCAL NETS**



**Greenville: 9 pm nightly - 146.610**

**Greenwood: 9 pm Thursday night - 147.165+t107.2**

**Greenwood Ladies: 8 pm Tuesday night - 147.165+t107.2**

**Anderson: 8:30 pm nightly - 146.790**

**Good Morning Net: Mon-Wed-Fri: 9 am - 146.760**

**ARES Training Net: 8 pm Thursday night - 146.820**

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### **From the Board of Directors**

It is the policy of the Board of the Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Society that should any member of the Club have an issue with something the leadership of the Club is doing, the member is encouraged to bring their concerns to the attention of the Board at any Board meeting or to the membership of the Club at any regularly scheduled Club meeting. Further, the actions of the Board may be reviewed by any member of the Club at any time.

### **Contact the Officers**

Pres. Wyatt Miller - [kj4ctd@wmiler.org](mailto:kj4ctd@wmiler.org) - 864-663-9203  
V. Pres. Josh Owings - [Jeowings@gmail.com](mailto:Jeowings@gmail.com) - 864-884-6587  
Sec. Rick Bagwell - [kd4dra@gmail.com](mailto:kd4dra@gmail.com) - 864-907-6121  
Treas. Robert Martin - [wa4hrk@gmail.com](mailto:wa4hrk@gmail.com) - 864-335-9679

### **Board Members**

Bob Taylor - [rtaylor62@charter.net](mailto:rtaylor62@charter.net) - 864-331-9864  
Phil Robinson - [mastercarpentry@gmail.com](mailto:mastercarpentry@gmail.com) - 864-906-7892  
Vic Gallo - [vsg20@aol.com](mailto:vsg20@aol.com) - 864-243-9827  
Johnny Allison - [jallison0529@mindspring.com](mailto:jallison0529@mindspring.com) - 864-884-1314

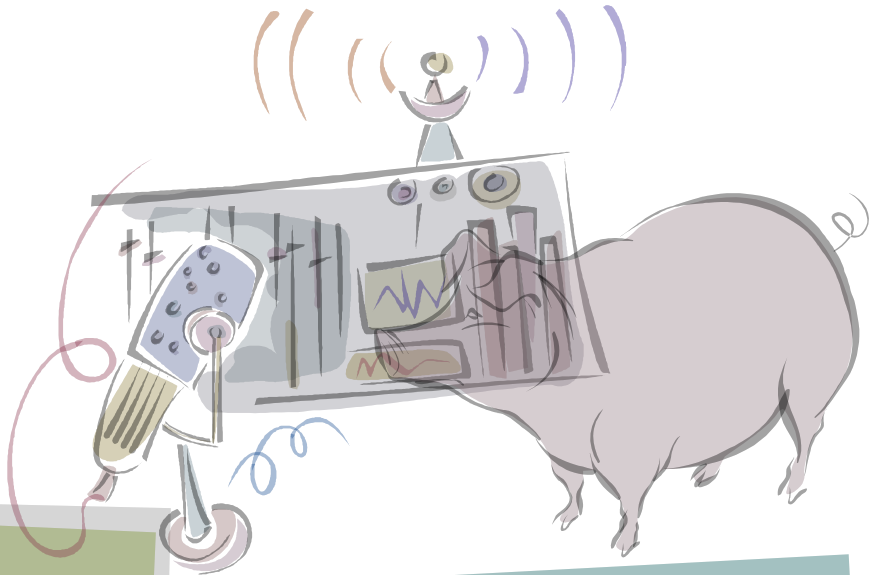
### **On The Web**

[www.brars.org](http://www.brars.org)

### **FACEBOOK**

[Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Society](#)

Time  
to  
Ham  
It up!



Introducing  
The  
**C**arolina-  
**Y**oung **A**mateur  
Radio Net

- A weekly controlled radio net for kids - run by kids!
- A chance to meet radio operators your own age and make new friends.
- A chance to introduce others to Ham Radio.

Directed Toward Amateur  
Radio Operators  
16 & Under

This **C-YA** Net will be held every Monday @ 7:30 pm on the SCHEART Linked Repeater System.

- The VHF Repeaters will be linked Statewide so you'll have the chance to make new friends throughout the State!
- Where it goes from here is up to you...it's Your Net For Kids...by Kids! It all starts **JULY 11**!

**C-YA On The Air!**

The local Frequency for SCHEART is 145.370 with PL tone 91.5





We had 47 people to sign the Log of attendance.

We had 301 CW QSOs.

We had 233 DIG QSOs.

We had 438 PH QSOs.

Each CW and DIG QSO was 2 points plus the PH QSOs for a total of 1506 contact points.

We used Generator power so our multiplier was 2.

We had a total of 3012 QSO points after the multiplier.

300 points for 100% emergency power

100 points each for media publicity, setup in a public location, information handout/booth, NTS

Message to Section Manager, W1AW Field Day Message, Site visited by elected official (State Senator), and Site visited by served agency (Greenville Deputy Directory of EOC) for a total of 700 points.

50 points for submission via the web site.

This is a total of 1050 bonus points claimed.

So all together the unofficial total until ARRL verifies the data and contacts I show us 4109 points for this year.

This information was made available to the Live Wire by Josh (KG4PFG)

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## A BIG THANK YOU TO:

All the Volunteers who came out for the setup and the take down of the equipment, I'm afraid to name names, I know I would miss someone, but you and the ones that were with you know, so PAT yourselves on the back for a job well done. Much improvement in the numbers, over last year.

I would like to give a special, Thank You from the Club Members to, Dave Watson (W4DJW) for the use of his equipment, and to Gary Titcomb (KI6RFT) for supplying the PORTA POTTY.



Some of you may have been seen looking like this after 24 hours



## ARES News

On June 21, 2011 around 15:30z, 4 of our local Hams, (KJ4CTD, KG4FQG, K4FLL and K4VAS) made the trip to Pendleton. And back at Home was N4BDR, running base operation.

Pickens ARES called Greenville ARES for assistance, for a missing 75 year old James Thomas. Our Guys were on seen around 16:58z and stayed till 19:58z and at that point they had not found Mr Thomas.

Hats off to the Guys for volunteering there time.

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## ARES E-Letter Issues

Click here if you are interested in the [ARES E-Letter](http://www.arrl.org/ares-el) Or Goto: <http://www.arrl.org/ares-el>



## ARRL News

06/24/2011

The ARRL has asked an independent research company specializing in survey research to conduct a survey of Amateur Radio operators. Readex Research -- headquartered in Stillwater, Minnesota -- has conducted similar studies for ARRL in the past, including QST readership studies and large national surveys. This most recent survey is being conducted by (Ray's Shack) mail and e-mail, and includes representative populations of Amateur Radio operators from among US and international ARRL members, as well as non-member FCC licensees.

For the full Story and More info, click [here](http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-survey-underway) or goto: <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-survey-underway>



Be a part of the Live Wire, use that camera, take some Ham related pictures to share with all your friends.

Send To: [kd4dra@gmail.com](mailto:kd4dra@gmail.com)

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ARRL PAGE This info is direct from ARRL website.

### *Hamfest within 100 miles*

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HAMFEST/CONVENTION  
07/30/2011 | WCARS Hamfest  
Location: Waynesville, NC  
Type: ARRL Hamfest  
Sponsor: Western Carolina Amateur Radio Society  
Website: <http://wcars.org>

HAMFEST/CONVENTION  
07/30/2011 | Newton County Hamfest  
Location: Covington, GA  
Type: ARRL Hamfest  
Sponsor: Newton County Radio Club  
Website: <http://www.ncrcga.org>

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HAMFEST/CONVENTION  
09/03/2011 | Shelby Hamfest  
Location: Dallas , NC  
Type: ARRL Hamfest  
Sponsor: Shelby Amateur Radio Club  
Website: <http://shelbyhamfest.com>

HAMFEST/CONVENTION  
09/23/2011 | Ten-Tec Homecoming  
Hamfest  
Location: Sevierville, TN  
Type: ARRL Hamfest  
Sponsor: Ten-Tec, Inc  
Website: <http://www.tentec.com>

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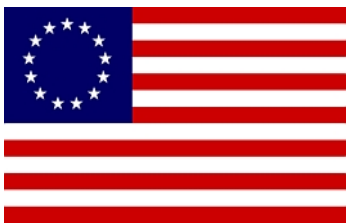
HAMFEST/CONVENTION  
09/23/2011 | W4DXCC VII Convention  
Location: Pigeon Forge, TN  
Type: ARRL Convention  
Sponsor: SE DX and Contesting Organization (SEDCO)  
Website: <http://W4DXCC.com>

HAMFEST/CONVENTION  
10/01/2011 | Rock Hill Hamfest  
Location: Rock Hill, SC  
Type: ARRL Hamfest  
Sponsor: York County Amateur Radio Society  
Website: <http://www.rockhillhamfest.com>

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## ORIGINAL 13 COLONIES INDEPENDENCE WEEK SPECIAL EVENT



NY-NJ-RI-GA-PA-NH-SC-VA-CT-DE-MD-MA-NC

**5 DAYS - NEW TIMES in 2011! (Starting today July 1st)**

The 4th of July, 2011 lands on a Monday, which means that you can work us starting Friday through Tuesday. Due to popular demand, we will run the event all 5 days like in 2010. Times will be: 12:01 AM Eastern start on July 1st, (That's one minute after midnight, early Friday morning, July 1st) to 11:59 PM Eastern ending on July 5th (One minute to midnight, late Tuesday night, July 5th).

Full Details Click [HERE](http://www.13colonies.info/) or Goto: <http://www.13colonies.info/>

## LETS GET READY TO WORK ARISSat-1

### ARISSat-1 Overview

Joe Windsor, WA9K

Well Boys and Girls, a few weeks remain before the planned July deployment of ARISSat-1 from the International Space Station. Check with the AMSAT News Service <http://www.amsat.org/amsat-new/news/> They will bring you more details in the coming weeks. Here are some reminders to help you get your station ready for ARISSat-1 operation. This will not be step-by-step instructions. This is a general informational article to get you interested. For more in-depth data, refer to the various links given. There will be QSL cards issued for the various modes of operation, so if you are into collecting wallpaper, there is another reason to give this a try.

### 145.950 MHz FM Downlink

FM transmissions will cycle between a voice ID as RS01S, select telemetry values, 24 international greeting messages in 15 languages. One of the messages will be a conversation between Yuri Gagarin and ground control. There will even be SSTV images that will be transmitted. For additional info on that, check out <http://www.amsat.org/amsat-new/news/>. You should be able to receive the FM transmissions on an HT with a suitable antenna, and if you know when the ARISSat-1 will be passing overhead. Instead of going into a long dissertation on satellite software, if you are not already familiar with the ins and outs of orbital elements, just check with the AMSAT website <http://www.amsat.org/amsat-new/tools/predict/> put in your location info, and you will get a listing of the upcoming passes.

### 435 MHz - 145 MHz Linear Transponder

The linear transponder will operate in Mode U/V (70 cm Up, 2m Down). It is an 16 KHz wide inverting passband and the convention will be to TX LSB on the 435 MHz uplink and RX USB on the 145 MHz downlink. This mode is designed to work with low power transmitters and omni antenna.

### 145.919 MHz/145.939 MHz CW Beacon

The CW transmissions will be callsign ID RS01S, select telemetry, and callsigns of people actively involved with the ARISS program.

### 145.920 MHz SSB BPSK-1000 Telemetry

The BPSK transmissions will feature a new 1kBPSK protocol developed by Phil Karn, KA9Q to be readable in low signal level conditions. The BPSK data will transmit satellite telemetry.

The ARISSat-1 BPSK-1000 downlink is transmitted in SSB mode on 145.920 MHz. When the CW2 beacon on 145.919 MHz is active this indicates that the BPSK-1000 format is being

transmitted. If the CW1 beacon on 145.939 MHz is active this indicates the backup of BPSK-400 format is being transmitted.

Transmitting at 100 mW, both BPSK rates include Forward Error Correction (FEC) and it is expected that modest quarter-wave antennas with low-loss coaxial cable will provide sufficient signal strength for decoding and display by the ARISSatTLM software.

An audio feed from an SSB receiver to the computer's soundcard input is needed. An initial "Receive Only" configuration is easily done consisting of an audio patch cable between your radio and the soundcard. Take the speaker or headphone output from the radio and run it into the line (or mic) input on your PC sound card.

BPSK-1000 sounds like a "shussch" with a higher pitch than the 400 bps growl. It is difficult to tune by ear. The CW2 beacon is used as a tuning signal for BPSK-1000. The PC and Mac ARISSatTLM software display contains a dotted line that you use to tune your receiver until the CW signal bumps lines up with the dotted line on your PC screen. This will allow you to decode the BPSK-1000 signal and you will also be able to copy the CW2 beacon.

Download the Windows ARISSatTLM free ground station soundcard demodulator and display software:

[http://www.arissattlm.org/download/ARISSatTLM\\_050\\_Setup.exe](http://www.arissattlm.org/download/ARISSatTLM_050_Setup.exe)

Download the Mac ARISSatTLM software:

<http://www.arissattlm.org/download/ARISSATTLTM.zip>

The ARISSatTLM software user guide is available:

<http://tinyurl.com/42uhtyf> (amsat.org)

Get your color ARISSat-1 Frequency Guide:

<http://tinyurl.com/4t497t2> (amsat.org)

Have fun and see you on the birds,

Joe, WA9K

**BRARS Club Meeting Minutes  
July 4, 2011**

No MEETING for July 2011

*Happy QSOs till we meet again  
Rick / kd4dra  
Secretary*