



Full Quieting

The Official Journal of The Bellbrook Amateur Radio Club



April 2022 — Issue 8

President's Podium

I have taken over scheduling the programs for the monthly meeting.



Jim Dean, W8UD, hosted the 2nd Operating Afternoon session at BARC on Sunday, 13 March 2022. We focused on contesting and FT-8 operations. Sterling Slone, KD8OYJ, Ryan McClure, KE8DKC, and Paul Sushereba, KE8SZD, made contacts the first time they participated in a contest! That is what it is all about.

Jim Dean also has started the process to develop the list of Elmers and has sent an e-mail asking for those interested to sign up.

At the General Meeting on 17 March, Jim presented a very informative talk on Antenna Systems for new Hams. The members liked it so much, he plans to develop and present a more detailed presentation in the near future.

Jim Totten, WA8HUB, our former President, is developing a list of restaurants to restart the famous Lunch Bunch, details to follow.

Tink Siwecki, KD8NUA, and Steve hosted the first of many Movie Nights on Thursday 24 March 2022. As usual great food, fellowship and movie, "The legend of Tarzan"!

We printed new name tags for all BARC members.

Ray Hitt, N8VMX, hosted the first planning meeting for Field Day, which is on 25 and 26 June 2022.

Ray also volunteered to be the new editor and publisher of the BARC News Letter. Please send him your interesting and informative articles.

73, Paul, [KD8OPN](#), President

President's Podium	1
From the Editor	2
Officer, Director, and Coordinator Inputs	3
Introduction to HamClock	8
Field Day Report	11
Hospitality & Library News	12
Reclaim a Broken Wire Antenna	13
Hints and Kinks	14
Current BARC Member Interview (KE8DKC)	16
Editorial Policy and Style Guidelines	19
Miscellaneous BARC Information	21



See [Introduction to HamClock](#), Page 8

2022 BARC Officers and Directors

President: Paul Sharp, [KD8OPN](#)

Vice President: [vacant](#)

Secretary: Jim Gifford, [KD8APT](#)

Treasurer: John Westerkamp, [W8LRJ](#)

Senior Director: Jacalyn Parrett, [KE8LZE](#)

Junior Director: Don Parker, [KB8PSL](#)

2022 Coordinators

Clubhouse: Jim Lusk, [KC8EFD](#)

Comm Center: [vacant](#)

Contesting: Ken Gunton, [W8ASA](#)

Education: Jim Dean, [W8UD](#)

Emerg Preparedness: Roger Parrett, [NQ8RP](#)

Field Day: Ray Hitt, [N8VMX](#)

Full Quieting Editor: Ray Hitt, [N8VMX](#)

Hospitality & Librarian: Natinka Siwecki, [KD8NUA](#)

IT: Sean Dickens, [K8SPD](#)

Net: Paul Sharp, [KD8OPN](#)

Public Service: Don Parker, [KB8PSL](#)

QSLs: Roger Hoffman, [WB9BXT](#)

Repeater: Russ Roysden, [N8NPT](#)

TechNight/Workbench: Trevor Clarke, [K8TRC](#)

Webmaster: John Westerkamp, [W8LRJ](#)

BARC Net: Every Sunday, 8 PM Local

147.045 (+) (no PL)

[Alt = 443.675]

Directions to BARC Clubhouse and Comm Center

Rooms 1 & 3 Lower Level Sugar creek Elementary School

51 S. East Street, Bellbrook (One block east & one block south from the traffic light in downtown Bellbrook)

Enter at South end of building

**Your views are important to BARC
and to *Full Quieting***

**Please make yourself heard at the
club, via [email](#), and on the air...**

From the Editor

Greetings,

As you can see, as of this issue, BARC has a new Editor. Ken Moak (KM8AM) has stepped aside, and I, Ray Hitt (N8VMX) have stepped up to assume the mantle. I wish Ken well going forward. While Ken and I have different styles as editors, I hope that is transparent to the readers, because the newsletter is really reflecting the styles of every one of you who send articles in for publication.

I've been in the Bellbrook Community since 1987, right after the southern portion of I-675 from US-35 to I-75 opened. I got my ham license in 1992 and started going to BARC meetings shortly after that – it's been so long that I have forgotten how long!

But enough about me, this newsletter is about all of us. You'll see in the articles from the past, in this issue, and future issues that we have a wide variety of interests. I hope you get a sense of how broad amateur radio is, and that there's a place for everyone. Please keep the great columns and articles coming in; I want to hear from you, as does the rest of BARC.

Enjoy the Issue,

73, Ray Hitt, [N8VMX](#)

(937) 974-6781

THIS IS YOUR BARC JOURNAL

Please send in those snippets and pictures that can help fill *Full Quieting*

It only takes a few minutes.....



Officer, Director, and Coordinator Inputs

BARC has six Officers and Directors and 15 Coordinators

- Some have monthly columns, and the rest can use this space to let you know what they're doing and what's happening in their areas of responsibilities.
- This space exists because our BARC Membership Survey 2022 suggested the Membership would like more information on what's happening in the club.
- Feel free to contact them if you have specific requests. All their emails are listed and hyperlinked.

- **President: Paul Sharp, [KD8OPN](#):** [See Page 1](#)
- **Vice President:** open
- **Secretary, Jim Gifford, [KD8APT](#):** I have been looking at the contents of our file drawers and determining what to keep and what we might discard. I also set up folders in the file with hard copies of meeting minutes from the previous two years. I attended the initial Field Day meeting.
- **Treasurer: John Westerkamp, [W8LRJ](#):** By now you should have received the 2022 BARC Membership Directory. Please let me know if you have any updates or corrections. We had over 90% of last year's membership join again this year and added almost 20 new members! Well done BARC! Our finances continue to be strong and I am preparing a Financial Roadmap to provide members with greater insight into BARC's future plans and spending.
- **Senior Director: Jacalyn Parrett, [KE8LZE](#):** No Input
- **Junior Director: Don Parker, [KB8PSL](#):** No Input
- **Clubhouse: Jim Lusk, [KC8EFD](#):** No Input
- **Communications Center:** open
- **Contesting: Ken Gunton, [W8ASA](#):** No Input
- **Education: Jim Dean, [W8UD](#):** The next **Operating Afternoon** is coming up on Sunday April 3rd. It will start at 2pm in the BARC clubhouse and run until 4pm. We will be exploring HF digital modes. We will have one station set up to run WSJT-X for FT8 and FT4. Another station will be set up to run either JS8Call or Fldigi (PSK-31, RTTY, etc.) depending on folk's interests. As always the event is open to operators of all skill levels, even technician license holders. May's operating afternoon will be on Sunday May 1st, so mark your calendars.

(Continued on next page)



Officer, Director and Coordinator Inputs

- **Education: Jim Dean, [W8UD](#): (continued)** The weekend of April 10th is [ARRL's Rookie Roundup contest](#). This is a fairly casual contest designed for newly licensed operators. A couple of people have expressed interest, so we will have the clubhouse set up for people interested in working the contest. This is a great opportunity to get on the air and practice your skills. Most of the other operators will also be new operators, so no one expects you to know what you are doing!
- **Emergency Preparedness: Roger Parrett, [NQ8RP](#):** No Input
- **Field Day: Ray Hitt, [N8VMX](#):** [See Page 11](#)
- **Full Quieting Editor: Ray Hitt, [N8VMX](#):** [See Page 2](#)
- **Greeter: Glenn Rodgers, [KE8LZD](#):** No Input
- **Hospitality & Librarian: Natinka Siwecki, [KD8NUA](#):** [See Page 12](#)
- **Information Technology: Sean Dickens, [K8SPD](#):** The church won a bid for a new building. They could be vacated by the end of June. Aside from the potential of losing internet access I am still very concerned with the lightning damage potential of our equipment. I'm wondering if there is a way to test the existing electrical surge protector. That will give us more information into the total picture of the issue(s) with the lightning protection. I have spent a bit of time lately tracing all the service entrances and cross-connections down to the endpoints.
- **Net Manager: Paul Sharp, [KD8OPN](#):** No Input
- **Programs:** This month's program will be held Thursday, April 21st at the BARC Clubhouse at 7:30pm. The topic will be "HamClock", by Ray Hitt (N8VMX). HamClock is a graphical app designed by Elwood Downey, WBØOEW, showing the time, world map with sunlit and dark areas and numerous other utilities useful to hams. This presentation will expand on the HamClock article in this month's newsletter, explaining all the features, how to set it up on a computer, or how to build your own HamClock.
- **Public Service: Don Parker, [KB8PSL](#):** Saturday, April 23, will be the annual [Bellbrook Sugar Maple](#) parade. BARC provides emergency communications for the parade. The parade start time is usually 10 a.m. but not confirmed yet.

The parade is the first of several community events BARC provides emergency communications for each year. As we get closer to the parade date, I'll be sending out an email for volunteers to assist with parade.

This is an opportunity for new members to use your new radio skills. You'll be assisting experienced BARC members on various posts. This is a directed net operation and will provide you with experience for operating during an emergency incident.

Our time involved with parade is about 2 hours.

(Continued on next page)



Officer, Director and Coordinator Inputs

- **Public Service: Don Parker, [KB8PSL](#): (continued)** [The Bellbrook/Sugarcreek Community Service Project 2022](#), will be a 3 hour community event to clean up Bellbrook/Sugarcreek Township areas of trash and debris. Volunteers will be needed for this project, I'll be sending out a link to register as we get closure to the event.

The committee met for our March meeting and identified our purpose and our goals for the September 10, 2022 project. I'll be submitting additional information as it's developed in our future meetings.

Core Project Areas

- ◇ Targeted areas to clean up within the parks
- ◇ Targeted areas to clean up within the city
- ◇ Targeted areas to clean up within the Township
- ◇ Targeted community members who will need assistance with some outside chores
- ◇ Need volunteers with trucks and gear

Primary meeting place for event

- ◇ Lions Festival Grounds/BSCS Grounds

- **QSL Cards: Roger Hoffman, [WB9BXT](#):** No Input
- **Repeaters and Domain Servers: Russ Roysden, [N8NPT](#):** No Input
- **Repeater Network and Nodes: John Westerkamp, [W8LRJ](#):** The BridgeCom Systems BCR-50V VHF repeater has been installed and is running smoothly. The AllstarLink/EchoLink node is also connected and running again. Information about using the Allstar node can be found on the website under [Repeaters](#). It is very important that you announce over the air your use of the Allstar node and send DTMF code *73 to disconnect from any remote nodes when you are done. Unfortunately, that is not always possible. We had a recent incident where a user connected to a remote node that happened to be listening to a very busy conference server. If the repeater is in constant use and unable to drop the carrier, a local user will not be able to send a *73 to disconnect and the connection will remain active forever! I have since taken steps to prevent this, but if it happens to you, please text me at 937-271-3119 and I can disconnect the node for you. You can also use the Contact Form on the website to reach me.
- **Talk-In Net: Ryan McClure, [KE8DKC](#):** No Input



Officer, Director and Coordinator Inputs

- **TechNight/Workbench: Trevor Clarke, [K8TRC](#):** I've continued to work on the transceiver design we started back in February. I'm planning on another discussion of the design in May, hopefully with a prototype we can play with! Please continue to give feedback on the design as it progresses, ask questions about different parts of the design, and if you're totally lost, let me know so I can expand and explain.

John Sellers (W8QEO) will be presenting at the April tech night. His talk is tentatively titled "From Heinrich Hertz to Software Determined Radios - Where We Are And How We Got Here." I know I'm looking forward to his talk and I hope he'll have good attendance!

As always, send me an email or reach me on air if you've got an idea for tech night, even if you don't feel comfortable presenting. We'll find someone to speak on just about any topic you can come up with.

- **W8DGN License Trustee: Eric Vinande, [KG6NFJ](#):** No Input
- **Webmaster: John Westerkamp, [W8LRJ](#):** The BARC website Membership Forum is open for business! The [Forum](#) is located under the *Membership* tab and is your spot for exchanging tips with BARC members, announcing activations, and asking questions about amateur radio. Several BARC Mentors and Technical Experts use the site and are ready to help out any way they can. We are working on a list of BARC Mentors and Technical Experts so you know who to go to for specific information. We hope to use the Forum as the medium for communication so that all members can benefit from your questions and the answers. When you first go to the Forum site, you will be asked to create an account. The Forum is only for BARC Members so you can feel safe asking any questions. Enjoy!
- **Youth: Tom McClory, [KE8FWZ](#):** No Input

Thanks for your Inputs!



BELLBROOK-SUGARCREEK COMMUNITY CLEAN UP DAY



**SEPT 10TH
9AM -
12PM**



WHO

All community members are invited for a morning of community beautification



WHAT

- Teams will work together to:
- clean up parks, city and township
 - support specific community members who need assistance with outdoor chores
 - learn recycling how-to's



WHERE

Meet at the Community Support Center/Lions Festival Parking Lot

51 S. East St
Bellbrook

PRESENTED BY

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bellbrook Lions Club • Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Community Support Center • Bellbrook-Sugarcreek School District • Winters-Bellbrook Library • Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Park District 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bellbrook Amateur Radio Club • Bellbrook Girl Scouts • Bellbrook Boy Scouts • Bellbrook Garden Club • City of Bellbrook • Sugarcreek Township • Community Churches
--	--

info@bscsc.org | 937-848-3810



Introduction to HamClock

Ray Hitt, N8VMX

I have become quite fond of a useful program called “HamClock”. I’ve described it very briefly in the past as part of my Raspberry Pi ham station setup but wanted to go a bit deeper into what HamClock does.

What is HamClock? It is a Linux application that was first introduced in the [October 2017 QST](#) by Elwood Downey, [WBOOEW](#). HamClock is a graphical program that shows a customizable world clock, information about propagation, weather, and other information on your home (DE) location and distant (DX) locations, solar activity, and more. It was originally built to run on an Adafruit ESP8266 development board along with a RA8875 Driver Board and a 7” touch display panel. Once decent Raspberry Pis (the Pi3 and Pi4) came out, HamClock was released as a desktop app for the Raspberry Pi and other Linux distributions like Ubuntu. It’s also possible to run in an X-window in Windows, but this requires some programming gymnastics to pull off. Take it as a challenge!

Here is a screen capture (Figure 1) of my HamClock setup running on an Ubuntu virtual machine in VirtualBox on Windows 10 (it looks the same no matter which installation you use). The program contains a large map panel surrounded by DE station information (N8VMX here), DX station information (green dot on the map – Kiev here), DX Cluster, VOACAP propagation between DE and DX locations, GOES X-ray and some space weather information. Wherever you click on the map, a new DX station replaces the previous one. Also clicking on a DX cluster entry will replace the DX panel with new information grabbed from the cluster.

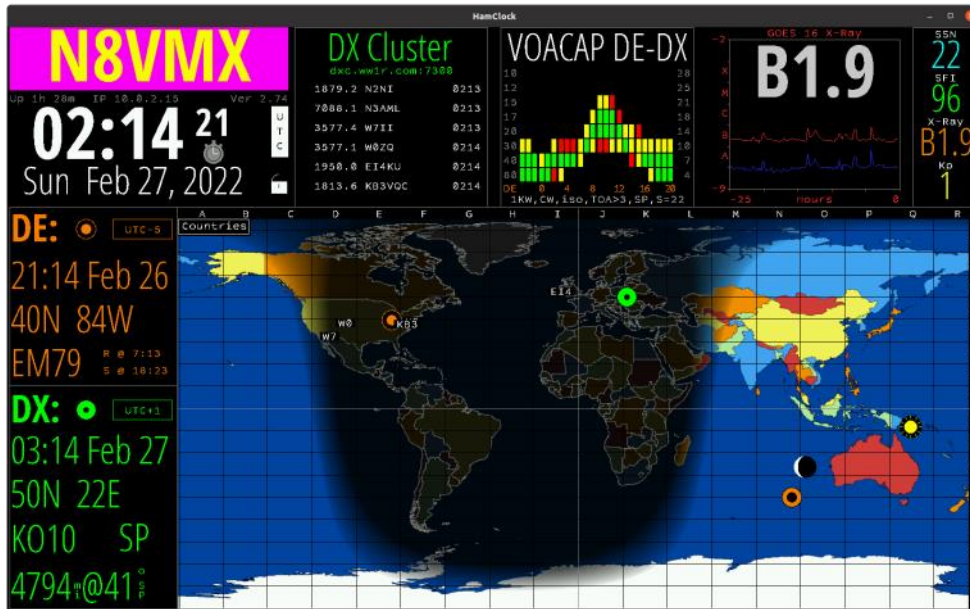


Figure 1- Hamclock display

(Continued on next page)



Introduction to HamClock

(Continued from previous page)

All the panels surrounding the main map are customizable. There are 15 panel displays that can be traded among the three square panels in the top center of the display. The space weather, DE and DX panels can be customized in different ways too.

The main map panel can show day/night with countries (as in Fig 1), also aurora prediction, satellite orbits, terrain maps, and various propagation maps calculated based on your DE location. For example, if you click on a band/frequency row on the VOACAP panel shown in Fig 1, the map panel will generate a propagation map based on your DE location. You can accept the default of 1000W, or change it to 100W, 10W or even 1W to match your station setup more closely (Fig 2).

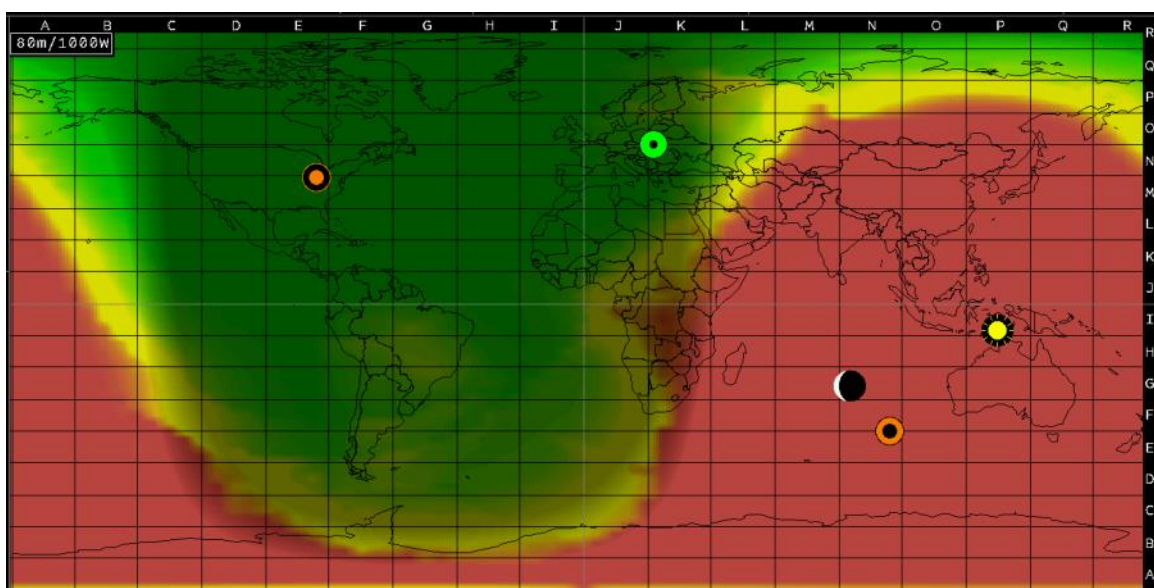


Figure 2- Map panel showing 80m propagation

Why would a ham like to use this software? I use HamClock to show the time (it's synced to the Internet – great to be on time for BARC net), keep an eye on what bands are open and where, sunspot activity, phase of the moon, sunrise/sunset. ISS passes, just to name a few examples.

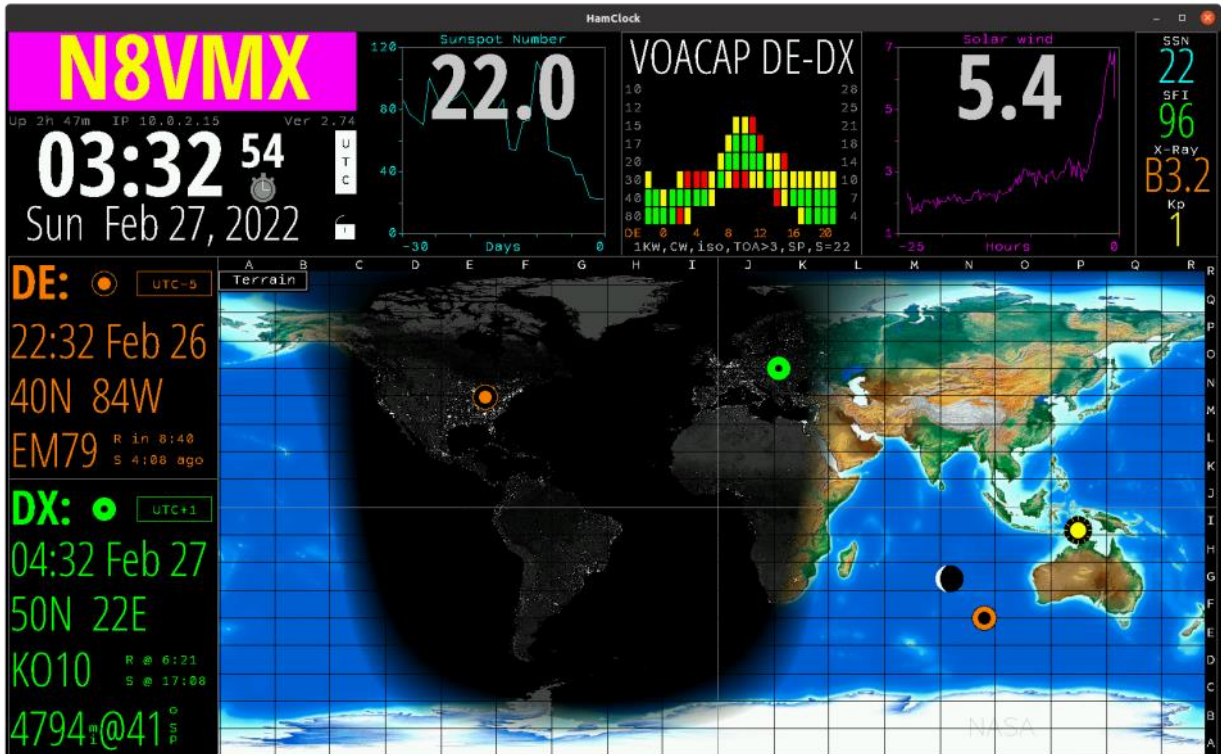
(Continued on next page)



Introduction to HamClock

(Continued from previous page)

How can you get it? The lazy way (also if you're rich) would be to shell out \$400 to buy one from GigaParts, but I wouldn't do that (they're sold out anyway). Go to the [HamClock home page](#), take a look at the user guide, the FAQ, the QST article, the download tab, and go from there. If you install on a Linux distribution, there is an [install script](#) there that will download the necessary prerequisites, the HamClock software itself, compile, and install automatically. Getting this up and running on Windows 10 requires a little tech support, so if anyone's interested, I could help get someone up and running on Windows. I've operated HamClock on Windows by installing [VirtualBox](#) first, then setting up an [Ubuntu](#) virtual machine (VM) running in VirtualBox. Within the VM, it's the same as installing on a "bare metal" Ubuntu desktop or a Raspberry Pi. For bonus points, VirtualBox can be set up to run "seamless" where a HamClock window would show up on the Windows desktop without the rest of the Ubuntu desktop covering it. There is also a new thing called WSL (Windows Subsystem for Linux) that allows Linux to be installed on top of Windows. I know almost nothing about WSL right now but will be playing around with it (on a spare laptop!).



That's enough for now, get playing! I have a Hamclock presentation that I plan on giving at the April 2022 BARC membership meeting that goes into more detail.

73, Ray Hitt, [N8VMX](#)



BARC Field Day Report

Ray Hitt, [N8VMX](#)

We held our first Field Day planning session on Saturday morning, March 26. The slides I put together are available on the [BARC website here](#). The slides were used as a point of departure to help quickly home in on what our plan is to be for this year. We settled in on running our station as 4AOH, which means 4 stations (maximum simultaneous transmitters) that are located in Ohio. This is used during Field Day when reporting to other Field Day stations. We will be known as "W8DGN, 4A Ohio". When you are operating, you will quickly memorize this!



We also discussed using the BARC IC-7300 radios, all configured the same, to ease operation by the attendees. Digital operation will be with laptops at these stations. We decided to set up the educational materials under a separate "BARC" canopy, to make it easier to have discussions there while keeping the noise down in the operating area in the shelter. All in all, we have a solid plan going forward.

One Saturday morning in early April, depending on the weather, I will be asking for some volunteers to help inventory the field day material, and check the coax cables (and repair them!).

The next Field Day planning meeting will be immediately after the [Sugar Maple Festival](#) parade, and as usual, in the BARC Clubhouse. If any of you are interested in participating, please send me an email and I will add you to the distribution list.

73, Ray, [N8VMX](#)



Hospitality & Library News

Natinka Siwecki, [KD8NUA](#)

BARC MOVIE NIGHT THURSDAY APRIL 28, 2022!



Please join us on **April 28, 2022** at 7:00 PM for our **BARC Dinner & Movie Night** at our BARC Clubhouse. We enjoy dinner, dessert and popcorn along with a good movie. If you would like to recommend a future movie or have dinner suggestions feel free to email me; I love trying new recipes! Our next movie will be: **The Monuments Men** (Comedy·Drama·History·War).

BARC Movie Nights are held on the fourth Thursday of each month January through October at 7:00 pm. We take November and December off due to the holidays.

Movie Nights for 2022

March 24, 2022

July 28, 2022

April 28, 2022

August 25, 2022

May 26, 2022

September 29, 2022

June 23, 2022

October 27, 2022

Keep an eye on your email for more information regarding the upcoming April movie night. We hope you will be able to join us for some if not all of our BARC Club Movie Nights!

73, Tink, [KD8NUA](#)



Reclaim a Broken Wire Antenna

Glenn Rodgers, [KE8LZD](#)

My first antenna was a multi-band End Fed Wire, relatively inexpensive and simple to setup and get on the air. And it worked well through a couple of years and one Tornado! But the wind finally won where the wire passed over a tree limb, and broke. So of course I did what any Ham does... relegated the pieces to my "parts box".

I replaced this antenna with a multi-band vertical, which again served my needs perfectly well... until I got into FT8. Oh it still worked fine, except now I could look at the Band activity and noticed I was missing out by not having access to 17m and 12m. I looked for options that would cover these bands, and put up a Cobweb antenna. That also worked very well, did everything I needed... until one day it didn't. I'm still not sure where the problem is, but have narrowed it down to either the last piece of coax going to the antenna, or possibly the connection there itself. Either way, it's not easy to get to the antenna and check it out by myself... more of a warm summer day project with a friend or two. But I still missed those 2 bands, so I found a short term solution to get back on the air.



I'd taken out the connection end of the broken end-fed antenna some time ago, just to see if I could measure the remaining wire and see what I could make out of it. Turned out I could calculate the length needed for a 20m wire and cut it down to make a mono-band. It worked well, and was a fun experiment... but I didn't use it much due to the primary vertical antenna. So once again I made a quick calculation, shortened the wire "long" for 12m, and put an antenna analyzer on it to see where I was. SWR was too high, so I tried shortening the wire by simply folding it back on itself and holding it there with a wooden clothes pin! SWR was lower, it was actually working. So I continued until it was where I wanted it for Digital / FT8 (24.915) and then made my final cut and secured the tag end. It was time to test out my New antenna...

After rechecking the antenna coax inside my shack with the analyzer, I hooked it up to my radio and turned it on, along with my Mac and WSJT-X. I turned the TX power down to 5 watts and hit the TUNE button... moment of truth. Clicked on a CQ call from North Dakota and was a bit surprised to actually get a quick contact, it worked. So I set my TX power to my usual 90 watts and tried again. My next contact was Cuba!

Now I knew it worked and I had a functional 12m band that I can use for FT8. Are there better antenna's, sure... but I doubt any cheaper since this was from used and broken parts. More important to me was the sense of satisfaction know I thought it through and came up with a functional solution. Sure, pretty basic and not technically difficult, but it still feels great.

I then was able to put a plan together for a 17m antenna... but that's another story... maybe next month!

73, Glenn [KE8LZD](#)



Hints and Kinks

Ray Hitt, [N8VMX](#)

Comments, questions, and answers regarding different ways to enhance our station planning, construction, operation, and upgrades

How to tune your HF radio to your antenna

I wanted to share my experience tuning an HF radio to its antenna. This method has worked well for me over the years. This hint is geared to the relative newcomers to the HF band; I am thinking here of new General license class holders.

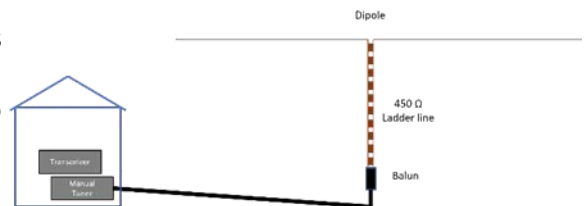
First off, why is tuning necessary? After all, when you operate in the 2-m or 70-cm band with your handheld radio, you don't need to do any tuning, you just press the push-to-talk button and you're off to the races. But in the HF band, the antennas are generally dipoles, vertical monopoles, or magnetic loops. All these antennas will match to the radio over a narrow range of frequencies. If you're transmitting outside this range, a voltage standing wave will build in the coax leading from your radio to the antenna. This standing wave will reflect a portion of the transmit power back to the radio or expend it as heat. Neither one of these result in any useful energy radiating out of the antenna. In some cases, they can harm your transmitter.

What do antenna tuners do? They don't make your antenna 50 Ω (ohms); what they are really doing is mixing inductance and capacitance with your antenna's inductance and capacitance to cancel it out in the direction of your transmitter, leaving only resistance. If your transmitter sees a 50 Ω load, it will be matched, and no energy will reflect back into the radio. However, there will still be standing waves and a mismatch between the antenna tuner and the antenna. Only a better matched antenna would fix that.



So, you need an antenna tuner. The most basic ones attach inline between your transmitter's antenna connector and the coax running to your antenna. Small knobs and switches allow different inductance and capacitance to be inserted into the circuit. A good example of a manual antenna tuner would be the [MFJ-962D Versa Tuner III](#).

Here's how a manual tuner would be connected to the transceiver and the antenna. It's indoors, and the coax runs out to the antenna where there is a balun (**balanced-unbalanced**) to allow the unbalanced coax to connect to the balanced ladder line properly. You can also run ladder line right up to the tuner as long as it is elevated off the ground and is not near any metal. Most people use coax because it is easier to work with and can lie on the ground and be near metal.



The method I prefer to use is a remote antenna tuner, such as the [MFJ-993BRT](#). Instead of connecting inside near the transmitter, this antenna tuner is mounted outside as close to the antenna as possible. I run 100 feet of coax out to the remote tuner then run ladder line up to the 80-m dipole that I use for HF. Why do I prefer this method? The mismatch between the antenna

(Continued on next page)

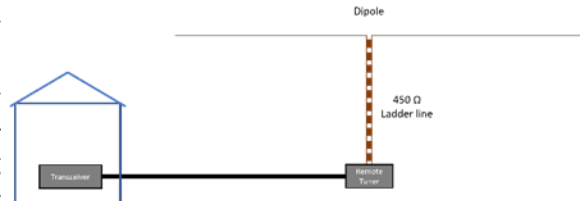


Hints and Kinks

(Continued from previous page)

tuner and antenna I mentioned earlier results in heating of the coax or feedline between them. The shorter the run of coax/feedline between them the less the heating loss and the greater amount of energy radiated through the antenna. Having the tuner right at the base of the antenna is the shortest realistic length of cable possible in most cases.

Here's how my setup is run, with the remote tuner mounted near the ground at the base of the antenna. Since the remote tuner requires power to tune itself, there is a special component called a [bias-t](#) installed between the transmitter and coax that send 12 VDC down the coax along with the RF. The 12-volts is separated within the automatic tuner to provide its operating power.



With all this preliminary explanation behind us, how do you actually tune the antenna? It involves the following steps:

- Reduce your transmitter power settings to a safe value, say 10-25W at the most. That would be enough power to trigger the tuner circuits and deflect the VSWR meter enough to read.
- Switch the transmitter to AM (this is because USB/LSB use no power when there's no audio, but AM has carrier power all the time). You can also use CW if you have a key. If your radio has an internal antenna tuner, temporarily bypass it while tuning with the manual or remote tuner.
- If you're trying to join a conversation on a certain frequency and it's in use, move away by at least 5kHz so that you are not jamming other amateurs with your carrier.
- Transmit briefly, observing the VSWR meter. To be totally legal, announce your call sign when you start transmitting, for example, "W8DGN, testing".
 - ◇ For a manual tuner, first rotate the inductor dial; then the antenna dial, inductor dial, and transmitter dial repeatedly until the VSWR meter shows the lowest value. Don't try hard to get 1:1 VSWR (no reflection at all); this is impossible, and you will be transmitting a carrier for a long time, potentially annoying other radio operators. Under 2:1 is good, under 1.5:1 is great, and under 1.2:1 is excellent.
 - ◇ For an automatic tuner, just key the transmitter and observe the VSWR go up and down as the tuner is searching for the best match. When the VSWR settles in and no longer moves, it is done tuning, and you can quit transmitting. Some automatic tuners have memory and will tune quickly if you go near a frequency you've transmitted on before.
- If your radio has an internal tuner, you can enable it and hit its tune button to provide additional matching. Chances are, it won't be doing much if you achieved a good match without it.
- Move back to the desired frequency and set your mode accordingly (USB, LSB, CW, etc.)
- Reset your power to the desired value and when you transmit for the first time, make sure the VSWR still seems reasonable. Your radio will thank you. Now, get on the air!

73, Ray [N8VMX](#)



Current BARC Member Interview

Ryan McClure, [KE8DKC](#)

How did I start in amateur radio?

Several years ago I was selling things on EBay for fun. A friend and I used to go to an auction house in Lodi, OH that had a tremendous amount of old tube ham radios. I did not know anything about them as ham radios. I would just look up the value on a few websites and then list them. It was fun, but never really considered getting my license and actually using them.



How did you learn about ham radio?

After becoming CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) certified with the Beavercreek Township Fire Department Auxiliary, I started hearing more and more discussions about ham radio. I finally became curious enough to start asking questions. Through that process I ended up going to a two day study group over in Miamisburg in 2016 and passed the test that was given at the end of the second day. I even won my first Baofeng UV-5R as a door price.



When you were first licensed?

I passed my Tech in 2016 but did not actually start talking until 2018. I received my General in 2019.

Why did you become a ham?



I am also a member of the Green County ARES (GCARES) and it became clear rather quickly that becoming a ham would greatly increase my ability to be helpful should the need arise in an emergency situation. Since then, I have just really enjoyed getting on the radio. There is a small group that meets on a local repeater for our drive to and from work. I am so glad I got my license and now wish I would have done it so much sooner in my life.

(Continued on next page)



Current BARC Member Interviews

(Continued from previous page)

What are your current ham radio interests?

I primarily just use 2m currently. I have several HF antennas but do not have any of them currently installed. I keep hearing folks talk about FT8 and that sounds really enjoyable. I am hoping to get everything I need setup for that soon. JS8CALL is something that also interests me. I think I like the more social aspect of JS8CALL vs. FT8 and letting the computer do all of the work. But I am sure I will enjoy both.

What are you most passionate about regarding ham radio?

I think just having a backup form of communication if/when most other forms of communication are lost. Pick your reason why, but with a little bit of solar and a few batteries, we will be able to communicate with the world when those without this skillset will only be talking over the fence to their neighbors.

Tell us about your stations (past, present, and future).

When I finally got the courage to get over my mic fright I used my door prize Baofeng to start listening to some local repeaters on the drive to and from work and eventually keyed up the mike. I still use an HT for my car to this day. My current one is a slight upgrade from the Baofeng called TidRadio. I just use a mag mount antenna on top of the car.

Eventually I wanted something for the house, so I bought a used ICOM IC-746 and have a Diamond V2000A mounted at the peak of the 2nd story. It seems to get the job done.

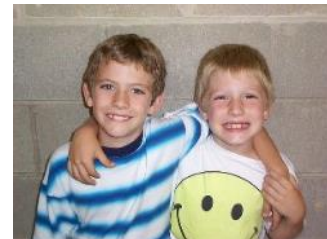
I also put together a "Go Box" with a mobile HF and a VHF/UHF rigs. Last winter my project was to build a "Battery Box" which I could use independently of my radios or in conjunction with them for emergency use or while out camping away from any forms of power.

What do you do for a living?

I am currently the Inventory Manager for Verso Paper Company. If you do not recognize that name, I started out with Mead Paper a little over 30 years ago. Mead was merged, bought, sold and we are getting ready to go through with another merger very soon. I have held other roles in Planning and Scheduling as well as several rolls in Logistics. I hope to retire in about 8 years.

Would you like to say something about your family?

I have two adult sons that are 29 & 30. The oldest is married and is a Financial Advisor and the youngest is a Chemist with a company in the Cincinnati area.



(Continued on next page)



Current BARC Member Interviews

(Continued from previous page)

Do you have other hobbies or interests?

I love being outdoors and setting around a campfire relaxing. I go camping a few times a year with a few folks I have met through Ham Radio. I hold a 7th degree Black Belt in Ko Sutemi Seiei Kan Karate. I recently retired from teaching after 32 years of studying and teaching the art. I also love the shooting arts. There is nothing quite like the aroma therapy of going out and working on that skill. I have also led our church security team for the past 10+ years. I also enjoy playing the piano and writing my own solo pieces. I combined my love of martial arts and playing the piano by having a professional recording made of songs that I had written. I sold those CDs as a way to help pay for my expenses when I traveled with a team called AKJU Team America to Ireland for a world karate and ju-jitsu competition in 1999.



Any other comments for BARC?

I have been a member for a little over a year and so glad that we have been able to start meeting in person at the clubhouse again. I still feel brand new, but have really enjoyed getting to know our fellow BARC members. I am still amazed at what we have available to us for just \$15 a year.

I am also hoping to meet more of you through being your new "Talk-In-Person." For those that would like to start attending our BARC monthly membership meetings, I will have one of our radios tuned to the BARC repeater 147.045 (+) (no PL) to listen for your call. I will then let you in through the gym doors in the NE corner of the building. This entrance is on the same level as our meeting room for easier access to the clubhouse.

73, Ryan, [KE8DKC](#)

We Need Your Bio!

It's easy, just take any back issue of Full Quieting and use one of the bios as a sample.

Make it as long or short as you want.

Lot's of pictures (as a young Ham, with your family, or shack/antennas) are a big plus.



Editorial Policy and Style Guidelines for *Full Quieting*

Editorial Policy

Full Quieting welcomes articles from BARC members on any ham radio subject that is relevant to BARC. Our focus is our BARC members. We will not reprint items or articles that are easily available by other means (web, magazines, etc.).

Most articles will be “how to” or “what I did” articles that focus on technical or operational subjects such as a construction (antennas, equipment, stations, etc.), the use of hardware or software, operating in unique/challenging circumstances, or a memoir.

Full Quieting will also consider an occasional article on policy issues regarding the various national licensing/regulatory agencies and/or amateur radio associations so long as the article is relevant to BARC members and constructive in tone and recommendations.

Although all *Full Quieting* articles represent the experiences and points-of-view of their authors and not BARC, articles that focus on policy issues will be specifically labeled as a reflection of the author’s opinion.

Regardless of subject, when you submit an article you acknowledge that you are the original author or creator and you grant publication rights to BARC. Anything you submit remains your property and you may have it published elsewhere without the need for permission from *Full Quieting*.

Style Guidelines

Language: English is the official language of *Full Quieting* and all articles should be submitted in English. Don’t be concerned if English is not your first language: just tell your story in your own voice and use translating tools such as Google Translate to help if necessary.

File format: Submit your article as a Word, Word Perfect, OpenOffice or text file attachment to an email. A shared document available for download (such as a Google Doc) is also okay. **Do not submit as an email or PDF file.**

Pictures and other graphics: Do not embed pictures or tables in the article. Please submit as an email attachment or a shared image available for download. Please reduce the file size of the images before you send them to *Full Quieting*. Large files can be attached to a series of emails. Keep file size in mind regarding publication quality: for example, a half page image in the final PDF version of *Full Quieting* should be at least 400 pixels wide. If a photograph or graphic was taken or created by someone else, you should have their permission to use it and the permission of anyone identifiable in the image. **If you capture images from the web, provide a citation (URL) for that source and make sure the source does not prohibit use of the image in *Full Quieting*.**

(Continued on next page)



Editorial Policy and Style Guidelines for *Full Quieting*

(Continued from previous page)

Use these style conventions

- We are hams, not Hams, and our hobby is ham radio This is a change to our original format
- The name of our organization is: Bellbrook Amateur Radio Club or BARC
- The code we use is Morse (capitalize the M)
- We use Yagi antennas (capitalize the Y)
- Q codes should be capitalized: QRM, QSB QSY
- The plural of QSO is QSOs, not QSO's
- Modes should be capitalized: CW, SSB, FT8, RTTY
- Bands are written as 10 m, 15 m etc.
- The abbreviation for a Silent Key is SK.
- You might have had an Elmer, not an elmer

Bruce N7RR has provided a [two-page check list](#) of common International System of Units (SI) formats and abbreviations.

Use these formatting conventions:

- Set all borders to 1 inch
- Do not use tabs or spaces at the beginning of a paragraph
- Use only a single paragraph or carriage return at the end of each paragraph



Misc BARC Info

REGULARLY SCHEDULED NETS

Daily (Sunday through Saturday) 1030, 1615 and 1845 Ohio Single Sideband Net (OSSBN) Primary: 3972.5 KHz LSB Alternates: 3968 & 7272 KHz LSB

Sundays 1900 Newcomers & Elmers Net (Cincinnati) 146.670 (-) (123.0 PL) Sundays 2000 BARC Weekly Net 147.045 (+) (no PL) [Alt = 443.675]

Sundays 2100 Miami Co. Voice & Data Net (Data Net follows Voice Net) 145.230 (-) (no PL)

Winlink Tuesdays GCARES Winlink Net Any time on Tuesdays Eastern Time Send To: W8LRJ, Cc: KE8FMJ W8GCA-10 445.010 (S), W6CDR-10 145.010 (S)

Tuesdays 1900 Dayton Veterans Admin Amateur Radio Club Net (W8DVA) 443.850 + 107.2 pl

Tuesdays 1915 Ohio ARES HF Net W8SGT Net Control at OEMA HQ Primary: 3902 KHz LSB (+/- QRM) Alternate: 7240 KHz LSB (+/- QRM)

Tuesdays 1945 Ohio Digital Emergency Net Primary: 3584.5 KHz USB (1500 WF) Alternate: 7072 KHz USB

Tuesdays 2000 MoCoARES Weekly Net 146.640 (-) (123.0 Hz PL) (Except—No Net on last Tuesday of even months (MoCoARES meeting) (Except—On 2nd Tuesday: Voice and Data Net on 444.250 (+) (123.0 PL)

Tuesdays 2030 Greene County DMR Net Primary: 444.875+, Color Code 13

Tuesdays 2100 GCARES Net (Voice & Data) 146.910 (-)(no PL) [Alt = 442.725]

Ohio Winlink Wednesdays OH ARES Winlink Net Any time on Wednesdays Eastern Time Send To: K8EAF, Cc: W8LRJ, KE8FMJ W8GCA-10 445.010 (S), W6CDR-10 145.010 (S)

Wednesdays 2000 Ohio District 3 ARES Net (West Central Ohio Regional Net) Primary: 145.110 (-) (67.0 PL) Alternate: 146.820 (-) (77.0 PL)

Wednesdays 2000 Beginners Net (Dayton Area) 444.875 (+) (94.8 PL)

ZOOM-Basic Setup & Configuration

Here's a link to the Zoom Video Tutorials: [Zoom how-to video tutorials – Zoom Help Center](#)

Also see: "Join a Meeting" and the "Joining & Configuring Audio & Video" tutorials for new users. Send questions or problems to John, [W8LRJ](#) ASAP but BEFORE the next meeting.

BARC Fundraising Opportunities

Kroger's Rewards Program Please use your Kroger Card when shopping at Kroger's and support BARC. If you haven't signed up and need help, bring your Kroger Card to the next BARC meeting, and we'll help you get registered (contact the [Treasurer](#)).

AmazonSmile Rewards Program BARC is registered in therewards program: AmazonSmile. Charitable and non-profit organizations receive 0.5% of total purchase price (small but it adds up over time). A web page of basic Q&A info on the AmazonSmile program is available at: <https://smile.amazon.com/charity/smile/about>. When you sign up for AmazonSmile, simply select Bellbrook Amateur Radio Club as your preferred charity when prompted. AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for BARC members (and family and friends) to support BARC, at no cost to you, every time you shop at Amazon. Just log in to Amazon like you usually do and you'll be asked if you want to use AmazonSmile. Just click YES and you're ready to shop. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection & convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to BARC. So, be sure to register for BARC in AmazonSmile the next time you shop at Amazon and then select the AmazonSmile option.

ARRL Discounted Membership Offer One of the benefits of club membership is the opportunity to become an ARRL member at a discounted price. BARC is an ARRL affiliated club and receives a commission for new first-time ARRL memberships transacted through the club. BARC passes on this commission (discount) as a club membership benefit to promote ARRL membership. BARC members currently receive a \$15 discount on a NEW first year ARRL membership cost when placed through the Club. Please contact [BARC Treasurer](#) for details

