

Full Quieting

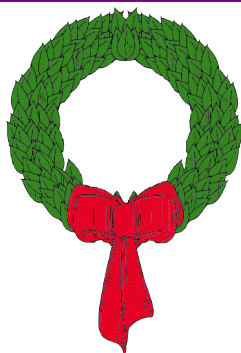
The Official Journal of The Bellbrook Amateur Radio Club



December 2025 — Issue 52

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From the Editor

It’s December already! How did that happen? It seems like just a few weeks ago we were on the roof in shorts putting up antennas, now we have snow to deal with?

Enough griping already, right? December is a lot of fun too. We all gather with friends and family over the Holidays, reminiscence about what we’ve accomplished in 2025, and resolve what we want to do in 2026.

In December we will be holding our Club Election. The nominees have been chosen, see inside for their Bios. There is also a proposed constitutional amendment to modify the tasks assigned to the Junior and Senior Directors. Take a look at those too.

While it is transitioning towards winter in December, there may be days where it is still tolerable to be outside. Look at maybe trying a Parks on the Air (POTA) setup when the weather is suitable. Do what I do and operate in your car with an external antenna if it’s too chilly.

If you want to experiment with POTA, BARC will be set up at John Bryan State Park on **January 1st**. No need to bring equipment, we will have it there already. Look for details from Jim [N8KET](#) once details are finalized.

On those days, where it’s just nasty outside, something you might want to try while stuck inside is learning Morse code. Take a look at the advise Jim Totten has in his article about Morse code. I plan on digging my key out of its case and doing some review to knock the cobwebs off my memory.

You can also spend some time to learn the FCC exam questions for the next higher license class if you need to upgrade. I may want to pick up an Extra license manual even though I have an Extra class license already; so much has changed since I got my Extra over 20 years ago! Digital is just one example!

Merry Christmas, and enjoy your December Newsletter!

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

2024 BARC Officers and Directors

President: Geoff Kline, [KI5VNB](#)

Vice President: Eric Bramini, [KC8OPY](#)

Secretary: Jim Gifford, [N8KET](#)

Treasurer: John Westerkamp, [W8LRJ](#)

Senior Director: Bob French, [AC8ZU](#)

Junior Director: Don Macon, [KE8WVJ](#)

2024 Coordinators

Antennas: Ray Hitt, [N8VMX](#)

Clubhouse: Jim Lusk, [KC8EFD](#)

Comm Center: John Westerkamp, [W8LRJ](#)

Contesting: Ken Gunton, [W8ASA](#)

Education: Paul Sharp, [WS8R](#)

Emergency Preparedness: Jim Lusk, [KC8EFD](#)

Field Day: Glenn Rodgers, [W8IO](#)

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

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

IT: John Westerkamp, [W8LRJ](#)

Lunch Bunch: Jim Totten, [WA8HUB](#)

Net: Paul Sharp, [WS8R](#)

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

QSLs: Roger Hoffman, [WB9BXT](#)

Repeater: Russ Roysden, [N8NPT](#)

Tech Night: Bob French, [AC8ZU](#)

Webmaster: John Westerkamp, [W8LRJ](#)

BARC Net: Every Sunday, 8 PM Local

147.045 (+) (118.8 PL enc and dec) [Alt = 443.675]

Directions to BARC Clubhouse and Radio Room

St. Pierre Education Center

3757 Upper Bellbrook Rd

Bellbrook, OH 45305

[Map Link](#)

Park in front of building, enter in front-right door.

Conference room: Take first hallway to the left, conference room is on the right. **Radio Room:** Straight down hallway, left turn into gym. Door on left.

Member Interviews

BARC wants to hear from you!

Whether you're a long-time BARC member or a brand new one, young or old, please tell us about yourself. Here are some simple guidelines, although you're free to use whatever format you're comfortable with.

This page is all about you. It's your chance to let BARC members to get to know you better.

Here's are a few sample questions to help get you started, but you can write whatever you want.

Please send us some pictures of anything you want BARC to see (you, station, antennas, pets, family, anything)

- When you were first licensed?
- How did you learn about Ham Radio (HR)?
- Why did you become a Ham?
- What are your current HR interests?
- What are you most passionate about regarding HR?
- Tell us about your stations (past, present, and future)
- What was the most exciting thing that happened to you in HR?
- What do you do for a living?
- Would you like to say something about your family?
- Do you have other hobbies or interests?
- Any other comments for BARC?



President's Corner

What a year it has been! From the moment we learned we were losing our clubhouse to being days away from opening the doors of a brand-new one, this club has shown what true teamwork and dedication look like. The level of support, from creative ideas, to volunteer time, to financial contributions, it has been nothing short of incredible. I am deeply grateful.

And somehow, in the middle of all that chaos, we still found time to play radio. We experimented, we learned, and we helped each other grow. It has been a joy hearing people talk about their first POTA activation, their first HF antenna setup, their first DMR contact, and so many other "firsts." It has been equally rewarding hearing the stories of the club members who guided them along the way. That's the heart of BARC, learning together, teaching each other, and celebrating every success, big or small.

I'll even include myself in that. I'd still be out in my backyard wondering whether amateur radio satellites actually exist if it weren't for Eric, our Vice President, who showed me how to work satellites at our Cowan Lake outing this year. Within five minutes, it was painfully obvious which step I had been missing all along!

As I sit here thinking about polishing off the last of the Thanksgiving turkey, I'm already excited about what 2026 will bring. With a new clubhouse, new momentum, and a club full of creative, enthusiastic hams, the possibilities feel wide open.

As we close out the year, this is a friendly reminder that 2026 BARC membership dues are now due. Your dues help us maintain the clubhouse, support club activities, and continue offering the programs and training we all enjoy. Thank you for keeping BARC strong and thank you all for an unforgettable year. I am proud of this club, grateful for each of you, and looking forward to making even more memories and more contacts together in the new year.

73,

Geoff Kline, [K15VNB](#)

President, Bellbrook Amateur Radio Club



What's Up BARC?

What's Up BARC?

Ray Hitt, [N8VMX](#)

Announcements regarding any member news including: new equipment, antennas, grandchildren, children, pets, operating news, etc.



Welcome Returning Member!

Doug Hayward, **K8DRH**, Extra

POTA In The Park

On November 1, BARC hosted a POTA event at John Bryan State Park (US-1964). We had stations at four separated sites operating on four different bands (40, 20, 15, and 10m). The main purpose of this POTA event was to have fun! Along with that, we had experienced POTA operators at each of these four locations providing guidance on how POTA works, and allowed club members to make their own contacts. Having several operators at one park often results in pile-ups because POTA hunters can snag several contacts at once which helps their score. Operating radio in the park is a great way to both enjoy radio and get into the great outdoors. A beautiful fall day in Ohio!



A. Mountain Bike Parking area **40m**

B. Picnic area just outside the Mountain Bike Parking area **20m**

C. Lower trail area near Clifton Gorge Wildlife **10m**

D. Clifton Gorge Parking lot **17m**



What's Up BARC? (continued)

Radio Room and Antenna Progress

We have made a lot of progress getting the radio room set up and some antennas installed. More details are in the [Antenna Coordinator's report](#). Here are some pictures of how things are shaping up.



Hustler VHF/UHF Base Antenna



Comet G3 VHF/UHF Base Antenna



Comet and R9 Antennas



Ethernet and HDMI cabling install



Kitchen shelving install



What's Up BARC? (continued)

Radio Room and Antenna Progress (continued)



Cable Channel under Station 1



RF Coax in ceiling drop to patch panel



Installing projection screen



RF Coax trimmed with connectors to patch panel

What's Up BARC? (continued)

Proposed BARC Constitution Change

We are proposing a change to the BARC Constitution that adds a new duty for the Junior and Senior Directors. This change is intended to address two important needs.

First, the school has asked that someone within the club be responsible for reviewing any proposed infrastructure changes—such as installing antennas on the roof, drilling through walls, or projects of a similar nature. Their goal is to ensure that each project has been evaluated from a safety perspective and that any potential risks have been properly considered before approval.

Second, many of the projects requiring school approval originate from club officers. Because the Junior and Senior Directors serve as representatives of the general membership, they should be empowered to raise concerns or object to projects that may present excessive risk or could endanger club members. Adding this specific duty helps ensure that safety-related decisions are not made solely by officers without adequate oversight from the membership's representatives.

In short, this constitutional change provides the school with the safety assurance they have requested and ensures that the club membership, through the elected Directors, has a clear voice in evaluating and approving infrastructure-related proposals.

Geoff Kline, K15VNB
President of Bellbrook Amateur Radio Club (BARC)

Actual Change

Proposed Change Section 2.3.7.5: Duties of the Junior and Senior Directors

Add the following duties:

- *The Junior Director will serve as the Clubhouse Safety Director to ensure that all club activities, projects, and equipment installations in the radio room and associated areas are conducted safely and in compliance with known requirements.*
- *The Senior Director will assume the role of Clubhouse Safety Director in the absence of the Junior Director.*

The Junior Director will communicate any safety concerns directly to the President.



What's Up BARC? (continued)

Election of BARC Executive Committee Members for 2026

The BARC Executive Committee serves as the club's governing board. The Executive committee consists of a President, a Vice President, a Treasurer, and a Secretary (collectively known as the club officers), plus a Senior Director and a Junior Directors (collectively known as the members-at-large). The officers carry specific functional roles, as defined by the "BARC Constitution and By-Laws" (C&BL), in conducting the club's official business; i.e. they run the club's day to day affairs.

The Members-at-Large represent the general club membership on the Executive Committee with full voting authority. Their responsibilities are also defined by the BARC C&BL and involves liaison and oversight.

The yearly election process is specified by the BARC C&BL as follows:

2.4.5 Selection of Officers and Members-at-Large

Officers and the junior director shall be elected yearly by the general membership at the December general membership meeting.

The senior director position is assumed by the current junior director.

6.0 CLUB ELECTIONS

The Nominating Committee shall report at the November meeting the names of one or more candidates for each office and members-at-large. Additional nominations may be made from the floor at the November meeting. The consent of each nominee must be obtained prior to voting.

The election and installation of officers and members-at-large shall be held at the December meeting. A member may submit a signed and sealed absentee ballot to the secretary prior to the election meeting. An absentee ballot once cast shall constitute the member's official and final vote.

The president shall call for three volunteer tellers to count the ballots. The tellers shall be Full Members who are not officers, candidates, nor family members of the same. The candidate receiving a majority of votes for each office shall be declared elected.

The nominations committee was formed in September in accordance with the BARC C&BL. The nominations phase for this year's BARC election concluded with the November General Membership Meeting. After a final call for nominees at this meeting, nominations were closed by a vote of the members present with a full, but uncontested, slate for the December election:

2026 BARC Executive Committee Nominees	
President:	Geoffrey Kline KI5VNB
Vice President:	Eric Bramini KC8OPY
Treasurer:	Thomas McClory KE8FWZ
Secretary:	James Gifford N8KET
Junior Director	Glenn Rodgers WI8O

Note: 2025 BARC Junior Director, Mr. Donald Macon KE8WVJ, constitutionally assumes the 2026 Senior Director seat.

Given that this slate of nominees is uncontested, most likely a motion will be put forth to authorize a vote by acclamation (in lieu of formal ballots), followed by a motion and the actual vote by acclamation.

BARC 2025 Nominations Committee for 2026 Executive Committee Elections

Stephen Siwecki KD8NUC

Donald Parker KB8PSL

James Lusk KC8EFD



What's Up BARC? (continued)

President's Bio—Geoff Kline KI5VNB

Hi, I'm Geoff Kline (KI5VNB), and I'm excited to be heading into my second, and final year as President of BARC. Term limits may technically make me a "lame duck," but I have no intention of coasting. We have a new clubhouse, new momentum, and a lot of opportunities ahead of us in 2026, and I'm looking forward to helping make it another great year for our club.

My amateur radio journey actually started back in high school in 1987. I was invited to a ham radio club event for students thinking about getting licensed. I was amazed watching a ham use his HT to make a phone call, that was magic to me. Unfortunately, the requirement to learn Morse code wasn't quite as magical at the time. Unless the test consisted entirely of the letters S and O, I wasn't going to pass it. So the hobby went onto the "maybe someday" shelf.

Even so, the interest never really left. I found myself drawn to anything wireless. I tested the limits of my first cordless phone. I walked around the block to see how far my brand-new Wi-Fi would reach. I even built an FM transmitter to broadcast Christmas music for a holiday light display I used to run. The signs were all there, I just didn't realize it yet.

What finally pulled me back into amateur radio was an article I stumbled across near the end of COVID about using an SDR receiver to pull down weather satellite images. I bought an SDR... then immediately started exploring the bands to see what else I could hear. That's when I heard someone calling "CQ POTA," talking about operating from inside a park. A few Google searches later, I was hooked. I even made peace with the idea that I might have to learn Morse code, only to discover the requirement had been dropped. Sixty days later I had my Technician license, and a few months after that, my General.

These days you'll typically find me doing POTA, experimenting with antennas, or trying to learn just enough electronics to get myself into trouble. My latest obsession is building a better mobile station, since I spend about three hours a day commuting and pass several POTA locations on my route. There are worse ways to spend windshield time.

I grew up on the east side of Cleveland and moved to Columbus in 1990 to attend The Ohio State University, where I started my career as a software developer before transitioning into IT risk management. Today I manage risk for a suite of applications at JPMorgan Chase. That job took me to Dallas for five years, where I developed a genuine appreciation for Texas BBQ, an appreciation strong enough that I bought a pellet smoker when I returned to Ohio so I could keep the taste alive.

Outside of radio, I enjoy camping with my college friends. I often end up testing antennas at the campsite, usually to the amusement, and curiosity of nearby campers.

I'm looking forward to serving as your President for one more year. If you have ideas, suggestions, topics you'd like covered, or presenters you'd like to recommend, please reach out. This club thrives on participation, and I'm always excited to hear new ideas.



What's Up BARC? (continued)

Secretary's Bio—Jim Gifford N8KET

Secretary: Merriam-Webster Dictionary – “an officer of an organization or society responsible for its records and correspondence.”

Why would someone of a sane mind volunteer to handle such a job? What qualifications should that person possess?

I best stay clear of the sanity question, as there may be differing opinions depending upon the individual of whom it is asked. As far as qualifications, I have a long history of writing and editing in both journalism and technical writing and editing.

Here is my “Readers Digest” version of my history in communication. Many years ago I worked in law enforcement for the City of Dayton. It's where I first met Don Parker KB8PSL, our department's evidentiary sleuth.

During those years I discovered that a properly written, concise report meant a more successful outcome in prosecution. As a training officer I also noticed that many graduates from the police academy did not know how to write a report. Eventually I was asked to help teach report writing at the Dayton Police Academy in addition to being a crime prevention detective. I have an Associate in Applied Science Degree in Law Enforcement from Sinclair College.

Years passed and I left police work and attended Southern Seminary in Louisville, KY, after being called by God into ministry. My next calling was being a bivocational pastor, which means I pastored a church but also held down another full-time job to support my family. During this time I also obtained a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Mass Communication from Wright State University, where I met Henry Ruminski W8HJR, who was one of my Communication professors and mentors.

Along with being a pastor, I worked for a defense contractor at Wright-Patterson AFB where I wore a few hats over the years. My tasks included technical writing where I wrote articles for, and also edited, the USAF “Tech Tips” journal. Among other duties I wrote and edited technical manuals and reports for 25 years for the Department of Defense. I served as a classified security officer holding a TS clearance for 20+ years, obtaining various training certificates from the Defense Security Service.

I studied for and obtained a British Standards Institute (BSI) certification as an ISO 9001:2008 lead auditor. I was also a certified in CMMI (Capability Maturity Model Integration), which is a process improvement model for improving an organization's performance. I traveled all over the USA and part of Canada for DoD and also NATO performing ISO and CMMI audits.

Lastly, and the one I studied hardest for, but never used very much, was being certified in CompTIA in computer science, especially relating to cybersecurity.

So, bottom line, why do I want to be elected as the BARC secretary? I believe that BARC is a great group of dedicated folks who not only love the science of radio but have a warm and friendly camaraderie. Also, I didn't see anyone else who raised his or her hand to run for office!



What's Up BARC? (continued)

Junior Director Candidate BIO — Glenn Rodgers, WI8O

I am 76 years old, retired, USAF veteran, and married for 46 years (happily). I got my Technician ticket through BARC in April of 2019, General at my first Hamvention the same year, Extra about 4 years after. Through friends at the club I became involved in the Beaver Creek Township Fire Department Auxiliary where I work in communications and firefighter support, and have taken CERT training. I am also active in Greene County ARES, and enjoy helping community activities in which BARC is involved. I hope you will consider me for the position of Jr. Director in 2026.

Treasurer Candidate BIO — Tom McClory, KE8FWZ

This year I retired from PNC Financial where I managed a software "devops" team keeping bank lending servicing systems alive and running. Except for my four year Air Force enlistment, my career has been here in the Miami Valley. After the Air Force, I used the GI Bill to earn a BS degree in computer science from the University of Dayton and an MS in computer science from Wright State. At UD I met a local girl who became my wife. Ann and I raised a son and three daughters. The oldest, Sean, has a PhD in Biochemistry and is a professor at Lasalle University. My oldest daughter, Jessica, is a civil engineer. If you subscribe to the Dayton Daily News you may see the byline Eileen McClory who is my number two daughter. The youngest, Claire, is a docent at Dayton History. I have five grandchildren, two granddaughters and three grandsons, aged 1 year to 14 years.

My Ham Radio journey started with following my dad Walt WA8ZFW (sk) to club meetings and ham-fests. My novice call, WN8CAE, was granted in 1969. I never got on the air. Fast forward to 2015 my dad moved back to Ohio. Knowing I would be his tech-support, it was just easiest if I got my ticket. In 2016 I was granted a General class license with my current callsign KE8FWZ. I now hold an Extra class license. My Ham Radio interests are casual contesting, POTA, and building portable antennas. My rigs are a Yaesu FT-991A, FT-857D, and FT-817, along with the usual handful of Baofeng and TYT HTs. My other passions are cycling, hiking, and camping. Pretty much anything outdoors. I am an Eagle Scout, and still active in a local scout troop even though my son aged out twenty-five years ago. Scouting America is one of the best training grounds for ethical and effective leaders of tomorrow and I'm proud to be part of that.

BARC is a great group of people and I'm looking forward to working with the club leadership.



What's Up BARC? (continued)

BARC Swag from Emerio KE8JNQ

In the April 2025 planning meeting, the club officers approved Emerio KE8JNQ to offer a variety of items for sale all in Blue BARC Color. These items complement the other items being offered for sale from other vendors. Notice that the logo is a larger size so other Amateur Radio Operators can see it better. All BARC members get this discount price. If you need more information or would like to order, contact Emerio KE8JNQ. His telephone number is 937-546-9477.



BARC Swag from Parrot Promo Essentials

We have polo shirts, sweat shirts, hoodies, t-shirts, ball caps, and softshell jackets from Parrot Promo Essentials. You can order them directly from our website, at <https://bellbrookarc.org/wp/order-barc-gear/>. These shirts are a little more expensive than those offered by Emerio, but they match the ones you've seen many of us wearing already.

BARC Mugs from Chris Hanselman, AD8OM

For those of you wanting 20 oz insulated BARC mugs, please contact Chris Hanselman, AD8OM, at deeremt@gmail.com. They are offered in Blue with silver print and Black with copper print. They will keep cold things cold and hot things hot for hours. I use mine almost every day and love it!



Officer, Director, and Coordinator Inputs

Treasurer: John Westerkamp, [W8LRJ](#): Work continues on the antennas and clubhouse updates. We had over \$3000 in relocation expenses for November. Dues are starting to roll in for 2026 and that will help. We are also looking into other ways to raise funds to offset these expenses.

Dues are \$15 per person or \$18 per family. You can use PayPal by sending your payment to treasurer@bellbrookarc.org using Friends and Family. You can also send a check made out to BARC to P.O. Box 73, Bellbrook, OH 45305. Or you can bring a check or cash to any BARC Membership meeting.

Finally, thank you to Jeff Pursel, KJ6XC, for taking over the Membership Coordinator role and relieving the Treasure of that extra duty!

Repeater: John Westerkamp, [W8LRJ](#): The repeater site services appear to be working well with the new cellular hotspot. We are looking into ways to improve the connectivity (speed and reliability). Be sure to let me know if you find any issues.

Website: John Westerkamp, [W8LRJ](#): Contest season is underway and once we have the clubhouse ready, we will begin advertising BARC events once again. Please watch the website for announcements. There are also some new policies for doing any work at the clubhouse. Please review those, too, under the About page.

Doug Hayward, K8DRH, has agreed to help out with the website. Thanks Doug for volunteering!

Communication Center: John Westerkamp, [W8LRJ](#): We are working hard to get the antennas installed and the clubhouse upgrades finished before the winter weather sets in. Currently, we have the R9 vertical, an EFHW wire antenna, a mesh dish, and several dual-band VHF/UHF antennas installed. The hexbeam antenna has arrived and we are waiting to install that after approval from the school board. Watch your email for volunteer opportunities to help with the installations.

Secretary: Jim Gifford, [N8KET](#): Even though the big election is fast approaching, I took time out of the campaign trail to record planning notes and general meeting minutes. The radio room has also kept me busy, because I volunteered to help solicit volunteers to help with needed work, such as kitchen shelving, running coax, cleaning ceiling debris, and putting up the projector screen. I have the added privilege of being the POTA Coordinator, and we had a well-attended POTA outing at John Bryan State Park on November 1.

POTA Coordinator: Jim Gifford, [N8KET](#): We had a well-attended POTA outing at John Bryan State Park on November 1. There will not be a POTA meeting in December, but mark your calendars for January 1, 2026, where we will have a POTA at John Bryan State Park to bring in the new year. Jim Gifford and Glenn Rodgers will send out an email in mid-December.

BARC Net Manager: Paul Sharp, [WS8R](#): Every Sunday at 8:00 PM you can listen to and participate in the exciting BARC Net, on 147.045. For the 4 weeks in November there were approximately 57 check-ins lasting 144 exciting and informative minutes. Topics ranges from Open Mike, Parks on the Air, what resources to you most often use for ham radio, Thanksgiving plans and traditions and tell us about any exciting contacts you made. We often have non BARC members checking in to enjoy the Net.

Our faithful Net Controllers are, Larry Darner, KD8RER, Joe Menchaca KE8UUQ, Tink Siwecki KD8NUA, Paul Sharp WS8R, and John Westerkamp W8LRJ. Jim Dean, W8UD, is an alternate.



Antenna Coordinator Update

Ray Hitt, [N8VMX](#)

There has been a lot of activity in November getting antenna designs finalized, components purchased, cables ran, towers and masts installed, and some antennas put on the air. With all this activity, I thought I should give a short summary of where we are and what's left to do with our antenna system.

Prior to December, we have:

- Installed the R9 vertical antenna, retuned it one time. It needs one more retune to “meet spec”.
- Installed a short BARC tower from the lower roof, going partially above the 2nd (gym) roof.
- Installed a BAR Repeater / Digipeater VHF/UHF antenna on a BARC tower side mount. Since the digipeater is VHF (144.39 MHz) and the BAR repeater is UHF (442.675+), this antenna is connected to both with a duplexer inline (in the patch panel).
- Installed an End-Fed Half-Wave (EFHW) antenna for 80-10 meters. This antenna is mounted from the BARC tower, runs towards the school tower, then tied off at the north side VHF/UHF mast. This antenna needs slightly repositioned for better performance, likely in the spring.
- Installed two VHF/UHF masts for operation from two of our stations. One has a Hustler antenna, the other a Comet GP3.
- Installed the polyphaser panel near the ceiling inside the radio room entrance. Cables enter from a PVC downspout leading towards the roof. All cables and rotor cables run through one 4” PVC.
- Installed the patch panel on the southern wall in the radio room, near the stations.
- Ran coax through the ceiling from the polyphaser panel to the patch panel which will connect the radios to the antennas, and rotor control for the one rotor we currently have installed on the BARC tower for the hexbeam antenna (the hexbeam is not installed yet).
- Started to run coax from the patch panel to stations. This will get completed in early December.
- Received the hexbeam antenna, too late in the season to install it. Primed the fiberglass spreaders, awaiting good (warm) weather to paint them flat black. Being painted flat black, they will be better protected from the elements and will be nearly invisible from any appreciable distance.

In December, we will be working in the radio room completing cable installations. No more antennas are planned for roof installation until 2026 and warmer weather. We still have a hexbeam antenna to assemble and install. We also have been approved to install another third VHF/UHF mast if we determine we need to run three stations at the same time on VHF/UHF.

Thanks for all the support I've gotten from you as antenna work parties are sometimes called on short notice (weather dependent), we couldn't have installed any of these things without your support!



BARC December 2025 Event Calendar

Tue December 2, 2025

7:30pm POTA SIGWhere: BARC Clubhouse (Conf Rm)

Thu December 4, 2025

7pm Planning Meeting.....Where: BARC Clubhouse (Conf Rm)

Sun December 7, 2025

8pm Weekly Net Where: 147.045+ (118.8 Hz tone)

Tue December 9, 2025

11:15am Lunch Bunch..... Where: Chic-Fil-A

Thu December 11, 2025

5pm SWODXA FlexRadio Meeting.....Where: Marion's Piazza (Mason)

Sun December 14, 2025

8pm Weekly Net Where: 147.045+ (118.8 Hz tone)

Thu December 18, 2025

7pm Membership Meeting Where: BARC Clubhouse

Sun December 21, 2025

8pm Weekly Net Where: 147.045+ (118.8 Hz tone)

Sun December 28, 2025

8pm Weekly Net Where: 147.045+ (118.8 Hz tone)

Thu January 1, 2026

1st BARC POTA of 2026 (details TBD)Where: John Bryan State Park



BARC Movie and Dessert Night

No Movie Nights Until January 2026!

Look for the 2026 Movie Schedule in the January Newsletter

BARC movie nights are held on the **Fourth Thursday** of each month **January** through **October** at **7:00 PM** in the **BARC Clubhouse**. We take November and December off for the holidays. At each movie night we pop up, *fresh*, BARC's famous popcorn and you never know what we will come up with for dessert!

We'll see you in January at the Movies!

Editor



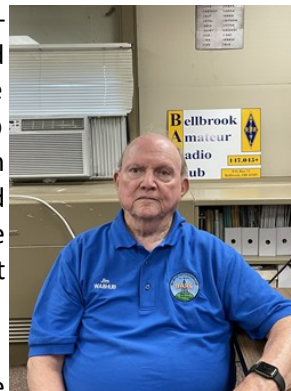
Photo by [Jed Owen](#) on [Unsplash](#)



Lunch Bunch

Jim Totten, [WA8HUB](#)

Hello my fellow lunch lovers. December 2025 is here. Though we may have had showers in April, May, June and July but the fading days of November have been cold and now and again rain. The exception was the snow on November 10th. It is time — time to renew our lunch meetings for this new month, **December 2025**. To recap: Our club meetings are on Thursdays. The Planning meeting is the first Thursday of the month and the General meeting on the Third Thursday. Our Lunch Schedule is the Second and Fourth Tuesday of each month. If a scheduled Tuesday gets slammed by some unforeseen event the lunch is just cancelled. The invitation messages will go out Wednesday or Thursday of the previous week.



Now, how will the lunches be selected? Accompanying this information page is the same chart in last months FQ listing our current set of restaurants. I updated all of the dates for all of the restaurants on our list. The list is now into 2026. This published list is the order we will select each lunch day. You now know what the whole order is and know what's coming next. The **December** restaurant is highlighted. Notice that is singular. Since December ends with Christmas there is only one lunch this month.

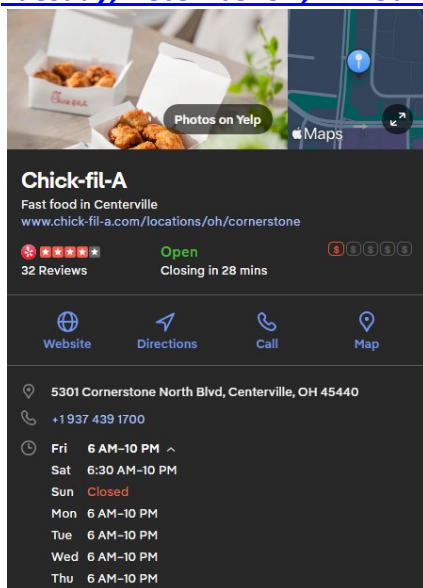
How did we do in November? On November 11, 2025 we had lunch at Mr. Shawarma Grill. The theme of the restaurant is a middle eastern cuisine buffet. We had 6 hungry folks. We had a mix of buffet eaters and from the menu.

Our **December** Lunch is the Chic-Fil-A in the Cornerstone Complex. Address is 5301 Cornerstone N Blvd, Sugarcreek Township, OH 45440, Tele: (937) 439-1700. If you get a salad, the Avocado Lime Ranch is awesome. Plenty of room inside. Nobody goes away hungry.

That's a wrap for this month. Happy eating.

73, Jim, [WA8HUB](#)

[Tuesday, December 9th, 11:15am](#)



Click picture or hyperlink for more info and maps



Lunch Bunch List

Jim Totten, [WA8HUB](#)

Date	Restaurant	Address	City	Phone Number
07/22/25	Cherry House Cafe	1241 Meadow Bridge Dr	Beavercreek, OH 45434	(937) 320-6200
08/12/25	Another Broken Egg Cafe 7:00 am to 2:00 pm	2453 Esquire Dr.	Beavercreek, OH 45431	(937) 912-5074
08/26/25	China Garden Buffet	112 Woodman Dr. Airway Shopping Center	Dayton, OH 45431	(937) 781-9999
09/09/25	First Watch 7:00 am to 2:30 pm	5245 Cornerstone North Blvd	Sugarcreek Twp, OH 45440	(937) 732-9013
09/30/25	Submarine House	3195 Dayton-Xenia Rd.	Beavercreek, OH 45434	(937) 429-8650
10/14/25	Roosters Wings	2430 N. Fairfield <i>The Shoppes at FC</i>	Beavercreek, OH 45431	(937) 702-9500
10/28/25	Butterbee's	217 Progress Dr.	Xenia, OH 45385	(937) 352-6504
11/11/25	Shawarma Grill	2844 Colonel Glenn Hwy	Fairborn, OH 45324	(937) 429-4959
12/09/25	Chic-Fil-A	5301 Cornerstone N Blvd	Sugarcreek Township, OH 45440	(937) 439-1700
01/13/26	Culp's Cafeteria	1000 Carillon Blvd	Dayton, OH 45409	(937) 293-2841
01/27/26	City Barbecue	2001 E. Dorothy Lane	Kettering, OH 45420	(937) 200-1006
02/10/26	Marion's Piazza	1320 N Fairfield Rd.	Beavercreek, OH 45432	(937) 429-3393
02/24/26	Red Robin	2671 Fairfield Commons Blvd.	Beavercreek, OH 45431	(937) 320-9800
03/10/26	Beavercreek Pizza Dive	4021 Dayton-Xenia Rd.	Beavercreek, OH 45432	(937) 431-8669



How about CW?

Jim Totten, [WA8HUB](#)

I got my amateur radio license in 1963. At that time Wright-Patterson AFB had an actual MARS station. This station was in a section of the base that now has the Commissary. At that time the base was divided into alphabetically named areas. For example, Wright Field was called Area B. The area where the MARS station was located was either D or F. This area was the site of many of the troop barracks. Over the years these areas were so modified that they just became part of the base.

Back to the subject. The personnel assigned to MARS had the idea of sponsoring an amateur radio class. The premise was to teach and test for the Novice class and as an add on, cover the text of the Technician class. At that time Morse code requirements were the same. Here is the news. Morse code requirements were 5 words per minute. So we started classes. Almost every one in the class was some form of engineer or scientist. The Morse code classes were much more difficult. Obviously we knew nothing. So here we went letter by letter until we were being tested. When we reached the magic 5 word per minute consistently it was

time for the real test. I don't recall if we had an FCC representative available (at that time only the FCC could give and grade the final word and Morse code test). Anyway I passed. I just looked up an envelope in a lock box and found an original copy of my Technician license, dated 3-20-63. So that also is the date of my novice license. I hadn't really looked carefully at the envelope in my lock box. It was a surprise to me that my ham career started that early. I had always thought my date was in 1964.

FCC Form 660 Rev. June 1956		UNITED STATES OF AMERICA		EXPIRES
STATION CALL SIGN		FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION		3 a. m., e. s. t.
WASHINGTON, D. C.		WASHINGTON, D. C.		
WA8HUB		AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE		3-20-68 N19
Fixed transmitter location: (and remote control position when authorized)				
SAME AS BELOW				
Licensee and P. O. Address:				
JAMES E. TOTTEN				
33 S. SMITHVILLE RD., APT 1				
DAYTON 31, OHIO				
(This license issued subject to conditions shown on reverse side)				
Operator Privileges		Issuing Officer	Effective Date	
Class TECHNICIAN (C.B. Plummer)			3-20-63	
Class				
SEE UPPER RIGHT CORNER FOR EXPIRATION DATE				

Now forward in time. I never made a CW contact for a number of years. I joined the Bellbrook Amateur Radio Club through the insistence of a coworker in the Air Force Research Laboratory. One learning series was the study of (you guessed it) Morse code. We got to a higher speed than 5 wpm and then the main instructor went home and we each had contact him with Morse code. So I did make one CW contact.

As I got older I still had a vision or nightmare of actually **learning** the code. Then is when I found the [Long Island CW club](#).

I started the beginner's classes and have worked my through both beginner's classes. My failing is I don't practice enough. They have a web page called the [LICW Morse practice page](#). You can set your speed levels, what kind of groups you want to hear etc. I am still working. Now is LICW the only method to learn Morse code? NO!



How about CW? (continued)

There is a man and wife pair that have a YouTube channel that discusses learning and using Morse code. The YouTube name is [Ham Radio Duo](#). The couple is Michael N4FFF and Becky N4BKY. Mike uses a [Putikeeg Mini Morse Code Key-CW Dual Paddle](#). Becky uses a [Putikeeg Classical Morse Mini Code Key](#). These keys are available on Amazon at the [Putikeeg Store](#). This first video is a description and action of Becky learning Morse Code. The name of the this video is "[Step-By-Step Guide to Learning CW Morse Code | Specific steps, tips, and our journey!](#)" One of the first learning apps they recommend is "Morse Mania". That app is available just by asking in your browser. I asked for Morse Mania and the first response was from Amazon and they presented 57 apps related to Morse code. A few were games but not all. I am not going to even attempt to explore these possibilities. Most were free, however there were a few that asked for a modest payment. *{Editor: I found the Morse Mania link [here](#).}*

Michael and Becky recommended going to the <https://learnmorsecode.org> website. This ends up in conversation with Michael and Becky and special direction for learning plus other activities.

There are other web based or download apps for learning the code. I am just going to name them with short comments. [Morsefree.com](#) lessons are at 13 wpm and cover all letters, numbers, and special combinations. [Morse Code World](#) is one of the best websites to learn Morse code online. It's a user-friendly platform with every tool listed in clear blocks (At least by the reviewer). [LCWO](#) is a simple-looking website that uses the Koch method to teach Morse code. ARRL features a ton of resources that help you learn Morse code. It includes a full library of MP3 files for 26 letters, 10 Arabic numerals, and punctuation marks. Access it without having to sign up anywhere.

In my humble view, I have stated before the Long Island CW Club is the outstanding and most versatile system to learn everything about Morse code. All classes are on Zoom so you have a face to face interaction with the instructor and your fellow students. The full schedule of all levels of classes are always available. There are classes for the rank beginner to copy in your head full QSOs. Students have to help share the expenses and here are the rates: 1 year = \$30. 2 Years = \$50. 3 years = \$70. Lifetime = \$90. I opted for a life membership. I am still learning (*more practice*).

Happy holidays and especially Christmas,

73, Jim [WA8HUB](#)



What is SkyWarn - How it Began

Don Parker, [KB8PSL](#)

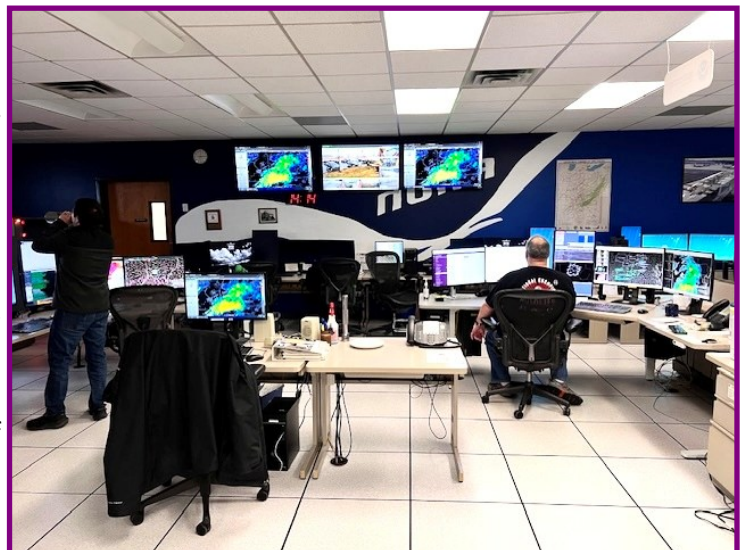
What is SkyWarn - How it Began

The National Weather Service is a network of volunteer citizens, public service, and emergency management people working together to provide the National Weather Service (NWS) with first-hand weather spotting observations during severe weather events. Ham radio operators comprise the backbone of many spotter networks throughout the United States. Amateur radio operators, or “hams” participate not only as spotters but also provide the communications infrastructure to rapidly, reliably, and accurately get severe weather reports into the NWS to expedite warnings being issued to the general public. NWS-trained weather spotters are not “storm chasers” but are trained observers of severe weather conditions. The formation of the September 20, 2000, Xenia tornado was first reported by a ham radio operator.

During 1942 and 1943, the Weather Bureau cooperated with the military in setting up volunteer storm spotter networks to protect military installations and recognized the value of first hand and real time information. The primary concerns were for lightning near ordnance plants but, the program grew substantially during the war and spotter mission expanded to include other hazardous weather including tornadoes. After WWII, spotter networks were maintained for military installations.

On May 25, 1955, a tornado in Udall, Kansas killed 80 people and injured 273. At that point the Weather Bureau decided to recruit severe weather spotters to help obtain real time severe weather information in order to help extend lead time and increase accuracy of severe weather forecasts. On March 8, 1959, the weather bureau held the first training course in Wellington, Kansas for 225 severe weather spotters. In 1965, the Natural Disaster Warning System (NADWARN) was established to coordinate the natural disaster-related emergency functions of various Federal agencies. A special tornado specific plan called SkyWarn was created under the guidance of the United States Weather Bureau.

Shortly after the devastating 1974 Xenia, Ohio tornado it was decided that a faster, more accurate visual form of severe weather reporting was needed. Working with the National Weather Service several amateur radio operators from the Dayton area put SkyWarn into motion. From its inception until 1995 SkyWarn operators worked beside meteorologists at the Dayton Weather Service Office (WSO) in Vandalia, Ohio. Frank Schwab W8OK, was instrumental to the founding of SkyWarn in the Dayton and West Central Ohio area. After Frank’s passing his radio call sign W8OK was given to Dayton SkyWarn organization by his family in memory of Frank and his dedicated years of service.



NWS Work Area



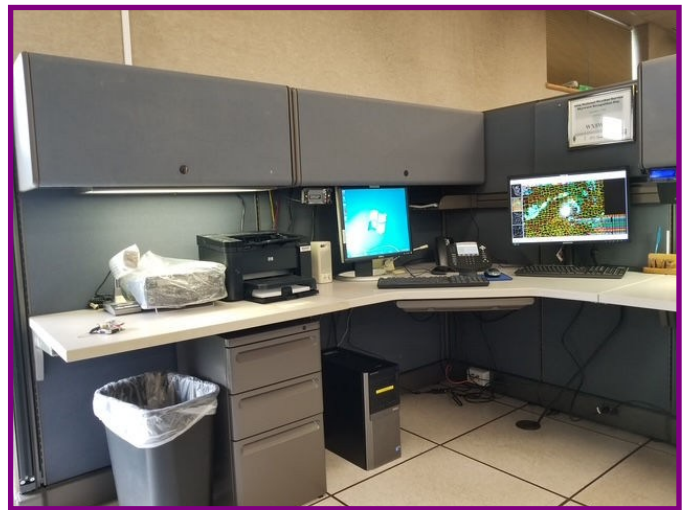
What is SkyWarn - How it Began (continued)

Don Parker, [KB8PSL](#)

In 2007, the current SkyWarn coordinators Paula KA8HQJ and Nelson WB8VUU Digennaro retired after 27 years of service. Lou Long KB8TCK and I were appointed as the third coordinators for Dayton SkyWarn. Several years ago, Gary Clark KC8TND was moved to a co-coordinator position. Lou, Gary, and I assist Wilmington NWS with spotter training for our 15+ counties. Dayton SkyWarn weather spotter class is held the second Saturday in March – the class information is posted on social media. The severe weather season begins in March and ends in November however our area of coverage has experienced tornadoes as early as February and as late as December. This year we've experienced a low number of activations even though our Dayton area has had 14 tornadoes and Ohio has had 28.

Dayton SkyWarn is activated by Wilmington NWS when certain criteria set by NWS meets the activation guide lines. Some counties experience severe weather but Dayton SkyWarn is not activated. Dayton SkyWarn operates on Montgomery County ARES frequency of 146.640 MHz, when we have an activation, Dayton SkyWarn has priority for the channel. When Dayton SkyWarn is activated the repeater frequency is opened for reports with a double beep indicating an active severe weather net is operational. When Dayton SkyWarn is activated Montgomery County ARES if activated moves to their alternate frequency.

Wilmington Weather service has four SkyWarn groups covering the southwest Ohio area: Dayton SkyWarn, Cincinnati SkyWarn, Columbus SkyWarn, and West Union SkyWarn. Depending on the severe weather coverage one of the four or more SkyWarn groups are activated. Wilmington issues a watch or warning for severe weather. **Watch** means weather conditions are favorable for severe weather. **Warning** means a particular hazard is either imminent or reported requiring immediate action. Wilmington Weather only accepts radio reports from the four SkyWarn groups and not individuals. A single net control operator works the SkyWarn net and is too busy to receive reports from individual ham radio operators. Anyone who received their spotter certification card can call Wilmington Weather at the phone number listed on their card.



SkyWarn Net Control Station

The 1974 tornado Montgomery County Sheriff's Office put out a call for all available police/fire/EMS to respond to Xenia for a devastating event. My partner and I responded arriving within a half hour of alert. We were assigned to the Arrowhead Platt to search for injured or trapped citizens. Our area was total devastation. Prior to the alert I observed the northern sky with an odd green color moving East. The September 2000 tornado I responded as a Kettering medic to the Groceryland building col-



What is SkyWarn - How it Began (continued)

Don Parker, [KB8PSL](#)

lapse with a trap. A major issue having fire/EMS response from various agencies was communications. Ham radio was utilized for some communications like during the 1974 tornado. After the 2000 tornado, research began to enable communications with various agencies on assigned frequencies. Ohio now has the MARCS (Multi Agency Radio Communications System) that allows specific operations to be linked to one shared channel.

The May 27-28, 2019, Memorial Day night tornado outbreak caused major destruction throughout Montgomery County, Greene County, and Miami County. The highest rated tornado reported was an E-F4. Gary Clark and I were at Dayton SkyWarn at 7:30 P.M. tracking the massive storm crossing Indiana when at 9:50 P.M. the tornado began its destructive pattern across the three counties. Dave Crawford KF4KWW and Les Dersham K9CAV, arrived for the activation. I covered the south repeater, Gary covered NWS radio, Dave covered the north repeater and Les filled in. We had several ham radio trained weather spotters providing outstanding reports with our information being broadcasted by TV7 meteorologists. I covered the "hot Seat" for several hours taking reports then Dave Crawford took over. Dave and I were very busy. The amazing part of this tornado outbreak with its wide area of destruction only one fatality was reported. Wilmington NWS director and Warning Coordinator presented Lou and I with a Certificate of Appreciation and a plaque for Dayton SkyWarn providing life-saving reports to Wilmington Weather.

Greene County has XWARN weather net for severe weather activations, XWARN can be contacted on 147.165+ PL tone 123.0.

XWARN is on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/XWARN>

Dayton SkyWarn website: <https://dayton-skywarn.org/wp/>

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/DaytonSkywarn>

W8OK 146.640- PL tone 123.0

Don Parker – [KB8PSL](#)



Evening of May 27-28 2019 Tornado Outbreak



Certificate of Appreciation Ceremony



Jim and Connie Gifford's Most Excellent Adventure: POTA-cation

Jim Gifford, [N8KET](#)

With N8KET and W8CSG's full social calendar (Hi Hi – for you new hams that is ham-talk for “LOL” – just look at Morse code for “hi hi” to see why), we decided to take a mini-vacation. Jim suggested that we venture to Gallipolis, Ohio, and West Virginia instead of our normal beach vacation. Connie suggested that we could activate a few parks on the air.

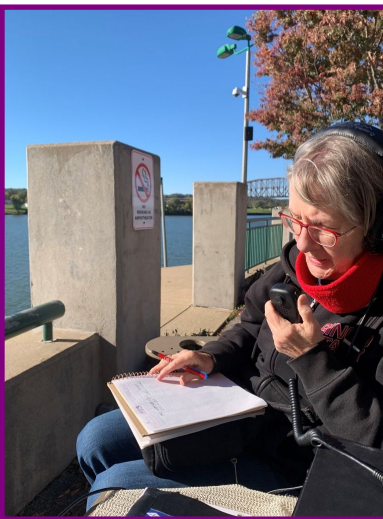
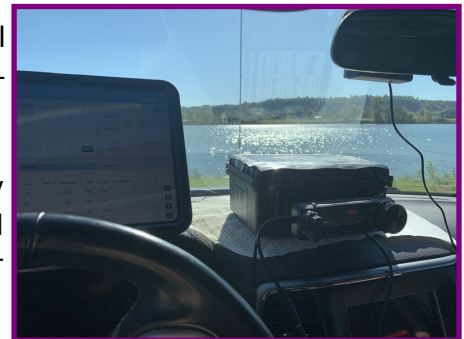
We made a few minor errors, one of which was to obtain a hotel room in Ripley, WV. There's nothing wrong with Ripley (lovely town), but it was miles away from the river along a winding two-lane road whose primary occupants were big trucks and deer, one would zoom up in back of us and the other zoom out in front of us. Lots of deer!

Our first POTA was in beautiful downtown Gallipolis, OH. If you know me, you will know that I am a history enthusiast. Gallipolis has a rich historical background. The name means “French City.” About 500 French merchants, artists, and aristocrats fled the bloody French Revolution.

Tragically, in December 1957, the city is known for the collapse of the suspension Silver Bridge between Gallipolis and Point Pleasant, WV, where 46 people perished during rush hour. Connie does not like bridges, so I did not tell her this history before we crossed the new Silver Bridge.

Gallipolis is also home to a famous American whose name is well known in these parts: Bob Evans. The huge farm he owned is located in nearby Rio Grande, OH.

We parked the Jeep about six-feet from the river's edge in a city park, set the Yaesu FT-891 head unit on the dash with the radio and tuner in the back seat. I set up a 17-foot vertical with a Wolf River Coil.



How could we activate a POTA in a city park, you ask? Well, the Ohio River is the route that Lewis and Clark took as they began their westward exploration. Anywhere along the mighty Ohio River, as long as you are within a short distance from the water's edge, is POTA US-4572 Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail.

Here is what the POTA rules list about trails: “Activating a trail takes extra creativity in locating your station. Do not block access to other users of the trail. POTA allows an activator to be located no more than 100 feet (30.5m) from the trail, possibly including parking lots or trailheads.”



Jim and Connie Gifford's Most Excellent Adventure (continued)

The Lewis and Clark Expedition was also known as the Corps of Discovery and was commissioned by Thomas Jefferson to cross the newly obtained Louisiana Purchase and discover the west. It's a long story, which I encourage you to research.

It started at the beginning of the Ohio River near Pittsburgh, PA. For you history buffs, yes, the actual Corps started from Camp Dubois where Captain Meriwether Lewis and his close friend, Second Lieutenant William Clark had gathered supplies and men. But Lewis had begun by traveling the Ohio River, which is part of the designated national trail.

It's interesting to read the details, because the mighty Ohio River, in the early 1800s, was at times just a very wide swamp, where the actual river was only inches deep. The Corps had to carry the boats at times to make their way down river. Now the river has a series of dams and locks to create deeper pools of navigable water.

Next, Connie and I drove to nearby Point Pleasant where we explored the WV state park, Tu-Endie-Wei State Park US-1823, which is a gorgeous narrow park along the south shore of the Ohio River. Here we activated a two-fer (which is POTA-speak for two parks at once): US-1823 (the state park) and US-4572 Lewis and Clark National Trail.

You may ask, how can you activate the same park twice in a day? Easy, when you record the Lewis and Clark National Trail park on the POTA website it asks which state you are in, so US-4572 was both an Ohio and then a West Virginia activation (same park, two activations in one day because it was in two states).



This park had beautiful murals of Indians and settlers painted on the walls of the flood wall. Statues of famous Indians and settlers were everywhere. We were able to sit in comfortable raised chairs with an attached table between the two seats. We placed the radio on the table and handed the mic back and forth.

The next day we ventured to a local wildlife area in West Virginia, Chief Cornstock Wildlife Management US-7048. Have you ever noticed how much easier travel appears on a paper map than what really exists? This was about a five-mile-long dirt and gravel one-lane (sometimes not even one lane) "road" into the wilderness. Connie joked about hearing *Dueling Banjos* playing as we navigated the park road.

Chief Cornstock fought in the 1774 Battle of Point Pleasant, where he led the Shawnee Indian warriors against the Virginia militia. Yes this was Virginia before West Virginia split with Virginia during the Civil War. Chief Cornstock was killed by settlers in 1777, and he is buried at the above-listed Tu-Endie-Wei State Park.



We found a very small pull off and decided that had to work. We passed a small gun range parking area about a half mile before, but thought the sound of guns might be a problem. We activated there. One gentleman stopped and nicely inquired about what we are doing. We had a great conversation about ham radio with him. We met some good folks around here.

Here we learned a POTA lesson: No cell signal means one cannot self-spot. If we had known before we left civilization, we could have spotted ourselves ahead of arriving. Yes, you do that. But hindsight is 20/20. So, we started searching the old fashioned way -- turning the dial-listening for other POTA parks .

We happened upon a perfect opportunity. We contacted a two-fer of two operators in two parks. Not only was this four contacts for our log but there was additional benefit. The operators said they were going QRT after our contact (which means they were ceasing operations at that location), and they said any other park operators could use the frequency if they wished. So we jumped on it and activated soon after. Why was this a good opportunity? The other park was already spotted on the POTA app, so hunters were looking and seeing our new frequency.

The next day we ventured into the Commonwealth of Kentucky. We were going to try to activate South Shore Wildlife Management Area US-3831. Our GPS map had us turn off US 23 and across railroad tracks. As soon as we went over the rise of the crossing we observed a huge chemical facility with several tanker trucks parked behind chain-link fence topped with what looked like razor wire. On the other side of a gate, next to the semi trucks, stood several workers in full hazmat suits.

Well, this didn't look very appealing. There was a building/guard shack and parking lot outside the gate. Next to the end of the lot was a sign for the aforementioned park. So I parked and went in and asked about park access. He had no idea and said we could not park there (nor did we want to!). So we looked at our trusty map, and we selected Greenbo State Park about 12 miles south as an alternative.

Greenbo Lake State Park US-1280 was a beautiful park where we made about 20 contacts. Connie, being a watercolor artist, then took out her easel and paints and created a painting of an old school house located in the parks boundaries. I made nine more contacts as I watched her paint.

So, what historical significance does Greenbo Lake State Park hold? Jesse Stuart was born near here and is Kentucky's Poet Laureate. Here is what the Kentucky Historical Society writes about Stuart: "An educator and prolific writer, Stuart authored books, short stories, and poems which portray Appalachian Ky. He received Guggenheim fellowship, 1937; nominated for Pulitzer Prize in Poetry, 1977. Works include *The Thread That Runs So True* and *Man with a Bull-Tongue Plow*." We have no way of knowing for sure, but perhaps he had attended the school that Connie used as a model to paint.

The Greenbo Lake State Park site describes a room in its lodge: "Enjoy poet laureate Jesse Stuart's writing in the reading room."



The next day we stopped at Big Bone Lick State Historic Site US-3779 in northern Kentucky. We activated here, barely, because we had no cell signal (again), and we could not spot ourselves. Also the wind was howling and it knocked over the vertical antenna, so I had to tie the antenna against a wooden light pole, which didn't help the signal.

We started hunting a few other parks by turning the dial. What actually saved the day for us was finding four operators working a two-fer. What a pileup, but we finally broke through! We called CQ after hunting, and we finally, we had an activation.

What is a “lick” you ask? It is a salt lick where animals came to lick the salt deposits. Why “Big Bone” Salt Lick? According to the park’s web page: “The bones of many prehistoric mammals, including mam-

moths, mastodons, ground sloths, bison, stag-moose, and a forerunner of the modern-day horse have been found at Big Bone Lick.”

There is a bison herd here today, which we visited after activating.

Later in the day, after speeding along white-knuckled through the cut-of-the-hill south of the Ohio River, we found our final park in the middle of Cincinnati, OH: The William Howard Taft National Historic Site, US-0875. This site is a house, closed now because of the lapse of federal funds, where William Howard Taft was born and spent his youth. Taft was the 27th president and the 10th chief justice of the Supreme Court. Former Ohio governor (who lives near Bellbrook), Bob Taft, is William Howard Taft’s great grandson.

We set up in a quiet parking lot where we were the lone occupants—nice peacefulness. Alone, that is, until the huge school across the street dismissed and

hundreds of young folks ran in front, behind, and around our Jeep. It's a miracle that they didn't knock down the vertical antenna while playing football in the field all around it. But no, all was good. We activated and headed home.



Lessons learned:

- I took about everything in my POTA arsenal, including several antennas, radials, coaxial cables, and batteries. Next time I will think about just what is required, and leave the rest at home. Nope! Forget that, I will still take everything, because that's my style.
- We operated from the front seat of the Jeep, and set up the radio body, tuner, and battery in the back seat. Next time I will set them up there before we leave so that we don't have to spend much time moving things around.
- Be safe and know your surroundings. We stopped in one park in Kentucky, listed on the POTA map, but decided to seek another location because hunting season had started for doves, and the only parking area was on the edge of a hunting field. In that same park a man, who appeared to be homeless, emerged from the woods.
- Instead of just depending on our GPS, we need to closely examine Google Maps or some other map application. If I had done so, I would have discovered another road for the parking lot at the South Shore Wildlife Management Area US-3831. We gave up too soon.
- From now on we will pre-spot ourselves on the POTA app in case there isn't a cell signal in the park.
- Lastly, when I head back to the William Howard Taft National Historic Site US-0875 (which I will soon), I will go earlier in the day and leave before school dismisses.

The end—POTA on!!

73, Jim [N8KET](#)



Answers to Amateur Radio Test Questions on pages 30-32

[Technician \(pg. 30\)](#)

T8A02 (A)

T8D07 (A)

T5D02 (A)

T8C08 (A)

[General \(pg. 31\)](#)

G7B01 (B)

G2B08 (A)

G5C10 (C)

G9D05 (D)

[Amateur Extra \(pg. 32\)](#)

E3B01 (A)

E4C14 (C)

E4B05 (B)

E6A11 (A)



Special Event Stations for December

Paul Sharp, [WS8R](#)

Here are a 2 links you can follow to find many SES that suit your varied interest. I may repeat and update some of these links as there are only a few sites focused on SES.

http://www.arrl.org/special_events/search/page:2/model:Event.

https://www.qsl.net/va3rj/spevents_dx.html.

Here is my pick of the litter of SES that I think will be of interest to my fellow BARC members. December is a slow month for SES. There are SES commemorating: Pearl Harbor Day, Christmas in Bethlehem and Atoms for Peace.

12/01/2025 | W2W Pearl Harbor Day Commemoration. Dec 1-Dec 11, 1300Z-2200Z, W2W, Hunt Valley, MD. Amateur Radio Club of the National Electronics Museum (ARCNEM) . 14.241 14.041 7.241 7.041. Certificate & QSL. ARCNEM, 338 Clubhouse Road, Hunt Valley, MD 21031. Amateur Radio Club of the National Electronics Museum (ARCNEM) will operate W2W in commemoration of the anniversary of Pearl Harbor Day and the role of electronics in WWII. Primary operation will be Dec 1-Dec 7 with additional operation possible during the Dec 8-Dec 11 period as operator availability permits. Operation on 80M (3.541, 3.841) and digital modes possible during event. Frequencies +/- according to QRM. QSL and Certificate available via SASE; details at ww-2.us [ww-2.us](#)

12/01/2025 | W2W Pearl Harbor Day Commemoration. Dec 1-Dec 11, 1300Z-2200Z, W2W, Hunt Valley, MD. Amateur Radio Club of the National Electronics Museum (ARCNEM). 14.241 14.041 7.241 7.041. Certificate & QSL. Amateur Radio Club of the National Electronics Museum, 338 Clubhouse Road, Hunt Valley, MD 21031. [WW-2.us](#)

12/06/2025 | Christmas in Bethlehem. Dec 6, 0000Z-2359Z, W9WWI, Bethlehem, IN. Clark County Amateur Radio Club of Indiana (W9WWI) Local repeater (W9JBQ) 146.850 no tones . 7.2. Certificate. Clark County Amateur Radio Club , P.O. BOX 201, Sellersburg, IN 47172. <https://www.clarkcountycarc.org>

12/07/2025 | Pearl Harbor Remembrance USS Wisconsin on the air. Dec 7, 1700Z-2200Z, N4WIS, Norfolk, VA. USS Wisconsin ARC. 14.264 7.264 7.064. QSL. Nauticus c/o Battleship Wisconsin Radio Club (N4WIS), One Waterside Drive, Norfolk, VA 23510. n4wis.org

12/07/2025 | Tubac, Arizona Luminaria Nights. Dec 7, 1700Z-2100Z, WE7GV, Sahuarita, AZ. Green Valley Amateur Radio Club. 14.242 14.250 14.260. Certificate & QSL. Tom Lang, 1085 West El Toro Road, Sahuarita, AZ 85629. <https://www.gvarc.us>

12/11/2025 | WX3MAS. Dec 11-Dec 14, 1400Z-2200Z, WX3MAS, Nazareth, PA. Christmas City ARC. 14265 7270 3850. QSL. WX3MAS c/o DLARC, 14 Gracedale Ave, Nazareth, PA 18064. DLARC.club

12/13/2025 | Ike's Atoms for Peace Anniversary. Dec 13, 1430Z-2200Z, K3S, Port of Baltimore, MD. Nuclear Ship Savannah Amateur Radio Club. 7,14,18,21,28. Certificate. Ullis Fleming, 980 Patuxent Rd, Odenton, MD 21113. Check spotting networks for frequency. See QRZ.com info for Savannah Award qrz.com/db/k3s

12/13/2025 | Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day. Dec 13, 1700Z-2359Z, NI6IW, San Diego, CA. USS Midway Museum Ship. 14.320 7.250 14.070 PSK31 DSTAR on Papa System Repeaters. QSL. USS Midway Museum Ship COMEDTRA, 910 N Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA 92101. www.qrz.com/db/ni6iw

12/18/2025 | Annual 160M AM Night on GCARA 1936 Net. Dec 18-Dec 19, 2359Z-0300Z, NM4A, Union, KY. Greater Cincinnati Amateur Radio Assoc. 1936 KHz. QSL. Bill Donnermeyer-NM4A, 10683 Palestine Dr., Union, KY 41091. www.gcara.org

12/19/2025 | Christmas in Bethlehem, NM . Dec 19-Dec 24, 1500Z-2359Z, KC5OUR, Peralta, NM. Valencia County ARA. 7.183 14.283 21.283 28.383. QSL. VCARA, P.O. Box 268, Peralta, NM 87042. KC5OUR.com



Amateur License Test Questions

[Answers are on page 28](#)

Technician

T8A02

What type of modulation is commonly used for VHF packet radio transmissions?

- A. FM or PM
- B. SSB
- C. AM
- D. PSK

T8D07

Which of the following describes DMR?

- A. A technique for time-multiplexing two digital voice signals on a single 12.5 kHz repeater channel
- B. An automatic position tracking mode for FM mobiles communicating through repeaters
- C. An automatic computer logging technique for hands-off logging when communicating while operating a vehicle
- D. A digital technique for transmitting on two repeater inputs simultaneously for automatic error correction

T5D02

What formula is used to calculate voltage in a circuit?

- A. $E = I \times R$
- B. $E = I / R$
- C. $E = I + R$
- D. $E = I - R$

T8C08

What is the Internet Radio Linking Project (IRLP)?

- A. A technique to connect amateur radio systems, such as repeaters, via the internet using Voice Over Internet Protocol (VoIP)
- B. A system for providing access to websites via amateur radio
- C. A system for informing amateurs in real time of the frequency of active DX stations
- D. A technique for measuring signal strength of an amateur transmitter via the internet

(Continued on next page)



Amateur License Test Questions (continued)

[Answers are on page 28](#)

General

G7B01

What is the purpose of neutralizing an amplifier?

- A. To limit the modulation index
- B. To eliminate self-oscillations
- C. To cut off the final amplifier during standby periods
- D. To keep the carrier on frequency

G2B08

What is the voluntary band plan restriction for US stations transmitting within the 48 contiguous states in the 50.1 MHz to 50.125 MHz band segment?

- A. Only contacts with stations not within the 48 contiguous states
- B. Only contacts with other stations within the 48 contiguous states
- C. Only digital contacts
- D. Only SSTV contacts

G5C10

What is the inductance of three 10-millihenry inductors connected in parallel?

- A. 0.30 henries
- B. 3.3 henries
- C. 3.3 millihenries
- D. 30 millihenries

G9D05

What is an advantage of vertically stacking horizontally polarized Yagi antennas?

- A. It allows quick selection of vertical or horizontal polarization
- B. It allows simultaneous vertical and horizontal polarization
- C. It narrows the main lobe in azimuth
- D. It narrows the main lobe in elevation



Amateur License Test Questions (continued)

[Answers are on page 28](#)

Amateur Extra

E3B01

Where is transequatorial propagation (TEP) most likely to occur?

- A. Between points separated by 2,000 miles to 3,000 miles over a path perpendicular to the geomagnetic equator
- B. Between points located 1,500 miles to 2,000 miles apart on the geomagnetic equator
- C. Between points located at each other's antipode
- D. Through the region where the terminator crosses the geographic equator

E4C14

What is the purpose of the receiver IF Shift control?

- A. To permit listening on a different frequency from the transmitting frequency
- B. To change frequency rapidly
- C. To reduce interference from stations transmitting on adjacent frequencies
- D. To tune in stations slightly off frequency without changing the transmit frequency

E4B05

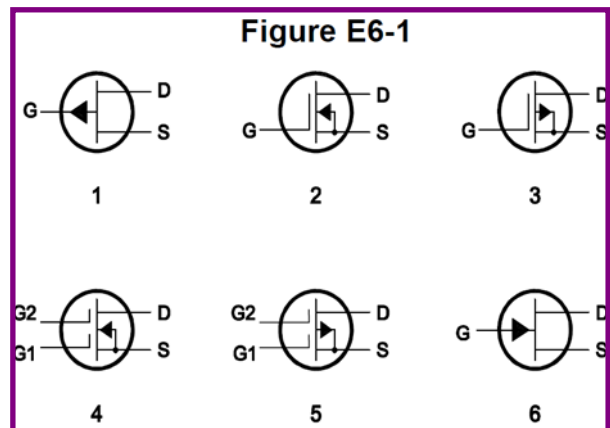
What three test loads are used to calibrate an RF vector network analyzer?

- A. 50 ohms, 75 ohms, and 90 ohms
- B. Short circuit, open circuit, and 50 ohms
- C. Short circuit, open circuit, and resonant circuit
- D. 50 ohms through 1/8 wavelength, 1/4 wavelength, and 1/2 wavelength of coaxial cable

E6A11

In Figure E6-1, which is the schematic symbol for a P-channel junction FET?

- A. 1
- B. 2
- C. 3
- D. 6



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*.**

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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. The preferred font is Calibri, 12 point.
- 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
- To enhance readability, use two spaces after the period at the end of a sentence.



Miscellaneous 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

Weekdays (Mon-Fri) 1130 DMR Net Brandmeister Talk group 310557. Accessible via hotspot, 147.390 (+) CC13 TS2(Dayton East), 444.4375 (+) CC11 TS2 (Dayton West)

Sundays 1900 Newcomers & Elmers Net (Cincinnati) 146.670 (-) (123.0 PL)

Sundays 2000 **BARC Weekly Net 147.045 (+) (118.8 PL)**
[Alt 443.675 (+) (118.8 PL)]

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 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 Opportunity — 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 [BARC Treasurer](#)).

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 the [BARC Treasurer](#) for details.

