



Full Quieting

The Official Journal of The Bellbrook Amateur Radio Club



February 2022 — Issue 6

President's Podium

My first month in office and there are no signs of impeachment yet!

At our 6 Jan 2022 planning meeting we made great progress.



We discussed over 30 topics, made decisions on them, and have taken actions.

We developed and instituted a survey to determine what our members want from BARC.

The number one requested focus was to have more emphasis on ham radio programs.

Ken, [KM8AM](#), presented an overview of the survey at the 20 Jan 2022 General Meeting. **The overwhelming response was most members joined BARC to meet like-minded amateurs, as a social activity and for educational opportunities.** Our next step is to meet with the Board (*completed, Ed.*) and then the Planning Committee to review the details and develop specific actions.

We have an updated website thanks to Bob, [AC8ZU](#), and John, [W8LRJ](#). Please check it out. Our new Education Coordinator, Jim, [W8UD](#), is planning to have a monthly operating night or operating afternoon. We will also be developing a list of Elmers with their area of expertise for you to contact for expert assistance.

At our Jan 2022 meeting, the 2nd part of the program was a presentation of "Clublog" by Ken, [KM8AM](#), and after the meeting 3 members signed up.

As an added attraction, 2 new members working on their Technician License joined BARC, we welcomed Joe Menchaca, Jr. and Thomas King.

Our priorities are operating, education/training, maintaining equipment, making timely decisions, completing action items, and having fun.

At BARC we are all volunteers. We are here because we want to be, we enjoy various aspects of Ham Radio and the friendships we make through Ham Radio

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

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2022 BARC Officers and Directors

President: Paul Sharp, [KD8OPN](#)
Vice President: Ken Moak, [KM8AM](#)
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: Ken Moak, [KM8AM](#)
Contesting: Ken Gunton, [W8ASA](#)
Education: Jim Dean, [W8UD](#)
Emerg Preparedness: Roger Parrett, [NQ8RP](#)
Field Day: Ray Hitt, [N8VMX](#)
Full Quieting Editor: Ken Moak, [KM8AM](#)
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

Hello BARC,

As presented at the January Club meeting, we had an overwhelming response to the **BARC Membership Survey 2022**. THANK YOU ALL.

You can find the Quick Look slides on the BARC web page. I won't spoil it for you, but BARC is one active club!

By the time you read this, the Board has done a deep review of all the data and written comments, They will brief the Planning Committee, and then all the data will appear on the BARC Website and be sent by email.

There are two opportunities for inputs to the **BARC Operational Requirements Document (ORD)**. The primary path is from the Officers and Coordinators. Each of you may send your comments to the Junior and Senior Directors, or to a Coordinator. Additionally, we'll send out a brief email to each Members directly soliciting any comments. **Just like with the Membership survey, here's your chance to make a difference.**

The ORD, along with results of the Membership survey, will enable BARC to design a Club Station that is realistic, achievable, and financially responsible.

As discussed at the Club Meeting, BARC will respect our heritage and evolve as needed to address the changing Amateur Radio world.

**73, Ken, [KM8AM](#)
937-408-6672**

THIS IS YOUR BARC JOURNAL

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

It only takes a few minutes.....



Ah, What's Up BARC?

Ken Moak, [KM8AM](#)

What's Up BARC?



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



BARC Net Stats by Paul, [KD8OPN](#)

2 Jan:	20 Mbrs.	35 Min.
9 Jan:	19 Mbrs.	41 Min.
16 Jan:	20 Mbrs.	38 Min.
23 Jan:	21 Mbrs.	46 Min.

Welcome to BARC: Joe Menchaca, Jr. and Thomas King! Many of you met our new members at the January Membership Meeting.

Both Joe and Tom are recently retired and looking to get into Amateur Radio. They are currently studying for the Technician Class license. Joe is interested in Emergency Communications and Tom is not sure, but both are interested in seeing what Amateur Radio is all about and what areas they can explore.

- **Paul, [KE8SZD](#)**, a new BARC Member had his 1st Check-in with the Sunday Night BARC Net. Congratulations and welcome Paul!
- **Randy, [KA0AZS](#)**, worked an aeronautical mobile flying over Cuba at 40,000 feet on 20 meters, using his IC-7300 and AT-200 PRO tuner
- **Milo, [KE8NJY](#)**, was looking for drone for Christmas. Did he get it???
- **Ray, [N8VMX](#)**, is using a discone antenna for receiving with his SDR
- **Jim, [W8UD](#)**, has his "Loop On Ground" antenna up as of 2 Jan 22. He also finished a 10w amp kit from QRP Labs
- **Jim, [W8UD](#)**, is establishing a BARC Operating Day at the clubhouse. See his article on [page 9](#).
- **Rob, [WS8M](#)**, installed a new wire for 80 Mtrs and discovered another Ham living very close. Must be a nice spot to grow antennas
- **John, [W8LRJ](#)** strung up a new MyAntennas EFHW 8010 end-fed, halfwave antenna from his mast across his backyard. Amazing how much better the receive and transmit are when you get an antenna outside and up in the air! He made FT-8 contacts with the Kingdom of Eswatini (in South Africa) and Mauritius Island (in the Indian Ocean).



Paul, KE8SZD

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Ah, What's Up BARC?

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What's Up BARC?



Congratulations to BARC Member Mark Gates who passed his Technician License Exam and is now **KE8TAX!** Well done and we look forward to hearing you on the bands! [Let's get him some "Look Ups" on QRZ.com](#)

- A great number of BARC Members have **emergency stations** ready to go when needed
- Many have backup power including: **generators, batteries, and even solar power.** Given Ohio's history of tornadoes, it's prudent to be prepared
- Several BARC Members participated in the **Ohio VHF+ Simplex Contest.** It's a six hour contest to inspire amateurs around Ohio to operate FM simplex to **simulate repeater-less emergency communications.**



BARC's building interest in CW prompted George, [KE8SNS](#), to suggest forming a SLOW SPEED CW practice group.

There are many ways to get together including using the club resources, VHF simplex, ZOOM, or other others. There are folks at the clubs that will help the group connect for practice.

If you're interested in getting together to practice CW in a slow speed, non-competitive environment, please contact George at gas0244@aol.com

73, Ken, [KM8AM](#)
937-408-6672



Club House News

News and events regarding Activities at the BARC Clubhouse

The rear heat in the clubhouse is still broken, bring your coat!

145.045 Repeater Status:

New Repeater Ordered



As you know, BARC ordered a new BridgeCom BCR-50V (136-174 MHz) VHF repeater. This amateur radio repeater is digital ready, runs 50 watts continuous duty, and is compatible with our existing Allstar node.

Bridgecom is doing the final programming of the unit prior to shipment

BARC Amplifier Status: **Fixed**

The BARC Ameritron ALS-600PS is repaired and back at the Club.

We're going to hold off on reinstalling the amp in station #4 until we finish the antenna design and the final locations of all antennas.



The reason is the New FCC RF Exposure assessment requirements and associated limits.

We must assess exposure to BARC Members and the other people using the building. If we meet the exposure levels, we can install and operate the amp.

73, Ken, [KM8AM](#)



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 responsibility.
- **This space exists because the 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: Ken Moak, [KM8AM](#): Lining up the requested Ham Radio-related BARC meeting programs for 2022. Will include an ARRL night with visitors from our OH Section. Also working with Tink and others on the resurrection of the BARC Birthday Party and Special Event Station (not on a Thursday). Please let me know if you have a program request, or would like to deliver a short program to the Club. We had some great suggestions during the BARC net

Secretary, Jim Gifford, [KD8APT](#): I have recorded Notes from the Planning Meeting and Minutes at the Membership meeting; as each are completed, I email the same to the membership. As part of an action in the Planning meeting, I have written suggested wording for a suggested change to the Constitution.

One of my tasks out of the last Planning Meeting was to send out a press release about the upcoming license classes. I contacted Lyle Steinhardt and confirmed the information. I sent out press releases to *Dayton Daily News*, *Xenia Gazette*, *Fairborn Daily Herald*, Greene County Chamber of Commerce, and the Mayor and Vice Mayor of Bellbrook.

Treasurer: John Westerkamp, [W8LRJ](#): [See Page 8](#)

Senior Director: Jacalyn Parrett, [KE8LZE](#) : No Input

Junior Director: Don Parker, [KB8PSL](#): [See Page 14](#)

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Officer, Director and Coordinator Inputs

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Clubhouse: Jim Lusk, [KC8EFD](#): No Input

Comm Center: Ken Moak, [KM8AM](#): See [Page 2](#) and [Page 5](#)

Contesting: Ken Gunton, [W8ASA](#): See [Page 24](#)

Education: Jim Dean, [W8UD](#): See [Page 9](#)

Emerg Preparedness: Roger Parrett, [NQ8RP](#): No Input

Field Day: Ray Hitt, [N8VMX](#): See [Page 12](#)

Full Quieting Editor: Ken Moak, [KM8AM](#): See [Page 2](#)

Hospitality & Librarian: Natinka Siwecki, [KD8NUA](#): See [Page 13](#)

IT: Sean Dickens, [K8SPD](#): No Input

Net: Paul Sharp, [KD8OPN](#): See [Page 3](#) for **BARC Net Stats**

Public Service: Don Parker, [KB8PSL](#): See [Page 14](#)

QSLs: Roger Hoffman, [WB9BXT](#): This will be my first, and last report, as I am handing over these duties to other capable hands (Roger Hoffman, [WB9BXT](#)). In the last two months we have received several QSL cards. I have checked and confirmed all but two in the Logbook of the World. Once the two are confirmed (or not), BARC QSL cards will be completed and sent, either via USPS or to the ARRL QSL Bureau.

Repeater: Russ Roysden, [N8NPT](#): No Input

TechNight/Workbench: Trevor Clarke, [K8TRC](#): I'm talking with Jim [W8UD](#), and John, [W8LRJ](#) on a new series for tech night and skills night.

Webmaster: John Westerkamp, [W8LRJ](#): Thank you Bob French, [AC8ZU](#) for all the work you did to update the old BARC website. In the future, I'll update members on the new website using Word Press.



Education and Training

Jim Dean, [W8UD](#)

Hi, I am James Dean, BARC's new Education Coordinator.

I usually go by Jim, but as there are a few Jim's in the Club I will answer to James if it helps alleviate confusion. I will take some time to type up a proper bio for next month.



For this month I wanted to provide some of the great feedback I received on our new operating afternoon activity. **I received 27 responses, with 18 of those indicating they were interested in a group operating activity.** When it comes to what time worked best, the results can be seen in Figure 1. The most popular time was Sunday afternoons at 2pm, followed by Thursday night at 7pm.

When it comes to desired operating mode, HF single side band (SSB) was the most popular. However, as shown in Figure 2, there is a lot of interest in HF and VHF digital modes. We will make sure and work those into future operating activities.

I absolutely welcome any other ideas folks have to offer.

Amateur radio offers a wide variety of activities that you can participate in on a variety of modes.

The activities with the most interest were working HF DX stations as Parks on the Air (POTA) hunting.

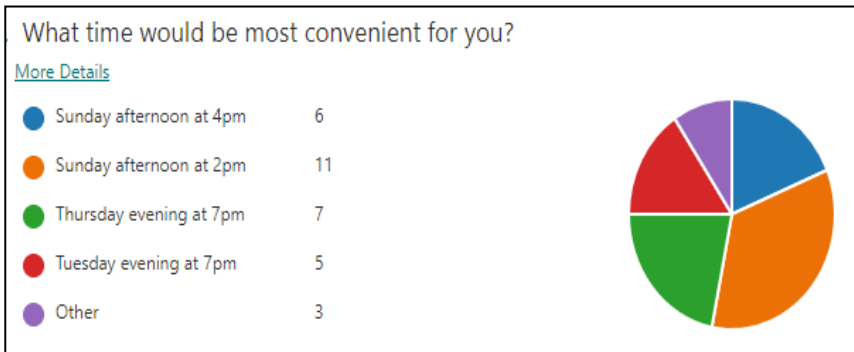


Figure 1: The survey shows that Sunday afternoons at 2pm is the most popular meeting time among respondents.

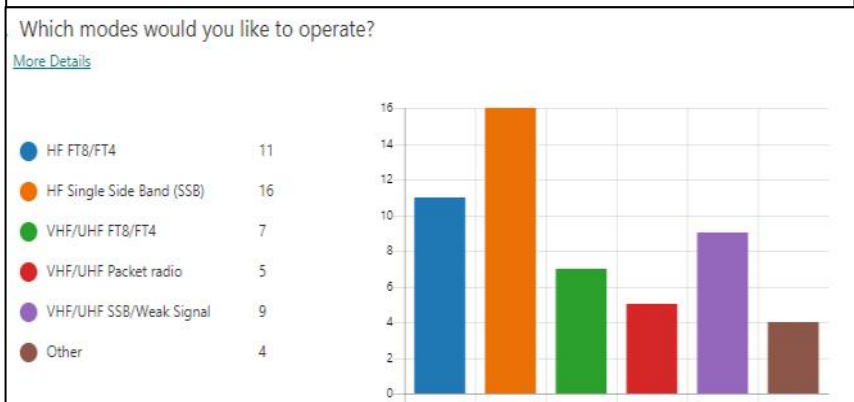


Figure 2: The most popular mode among respondents as HF single side

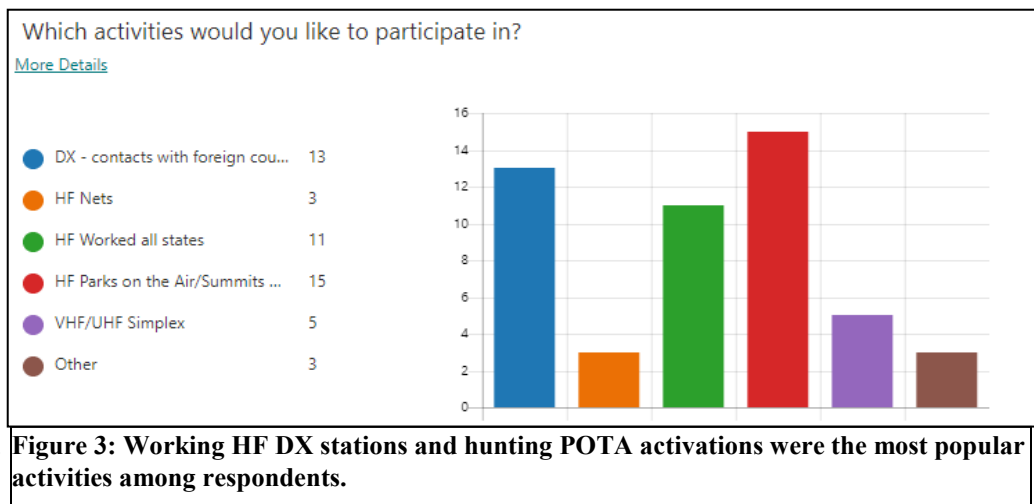
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Education and Training

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The graph in Figure 3 shows the full results. There was even some interest in satellite operations. I believe a few of our members, myself included, have handheld Yagi antennas that can be



used to work the FM satellites as well as the International Space Station (ISS). We should be able to give it a shot once it warms up a bit.

Finally, of the 18 folks that were interested in attending an operating activity, almost all of them indicated they would be interested in a BARC Parks On the Air activation. I think it would be great to plan a Club activation for the spring. We will probably need a couple of volunteers to help with the planning. We can address that at a future Club meeting if desired.

I would like to wrap this up by sharing my initial vision of what BARC operators' event would be. I see an operators' event as an opportunity for new hams to come out and operate alongside more experienced members of the Club. It also gives folks that are interested in building a home HF station a chance to get some experience with different antennas and radios to get a better idea of what they may need for their home station. **I want to emphasize that you do not need to hold a general class license or higher to come out and participate.** As long as a member with a general or extra license is present to act as a control operator, anyone can come out and operate with the Club call sign, W8DGN. **As much as I believe new hams will benefit from this event, I don't want to focus solely on newcomers.** After all, new hams won't be new forever. I would like to offer activities that experienced hams will enjoy and benefit from as well. Those are my thoughts, but this is a Club activity and **I absolutely welcome any other ideas folks have to offer.**

With that, I'd like to announce the first BARC operators' event for Sunday February 6th at 2 pm. The theme, for lack of a better term, for the inaugural BARC operator's event will be hunting **Parks on the Air activators.**

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Education and Training

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If you are not familiar with POTA, you can check out the website (www.parksontheair.com). There you will find information about registering your call sign as well as a link to the spotting page.

Hunting Parks On the Air station is an excellent way to get started in HF SSB operating, and it is also fun and challenging for more experienced operators.

The contacts are short and plentiful, and you don't have to fuss with logs.

I hope to see you there!



73, Jim, [W8UD](http://www.w8ud.com)

Ham Radio Classes

Finally, you heard it here first, the **LOCAL License Classes are on!**

The first class will be Sunday, February 20, 2022. There will be 9 total class sessions every Sunday from 7:00-9:00 pm (except Easter Sunday).

A license exam will be scheduled for Sunday May 1.

The Technician class will be held at the BARC Clubhouse

The General class will be held at Beaver Creek Township Fire Department Station #61.

The Extra class will be held at Fairborn Fire Department. Watch for details and registration information on the BARC website.



Treasurer's Report

John Westerkamp, [W8LRJ](mailto:w8lrj@arrl.net)

Hello! This is my first column as Treasurer, although this is my third year as the BARC Treasurer. I look forward to updating the membership on our finances and other items of interest.



Currently, the BARC treasury is doing well, and we have plenty of funds to support our future growth. The Planning Committee is busy putting together questionnaires for the membership to help guide us as we put together a plan for the next several years. We need your input to answer the big questions like “Why are you a member of BARC?”, “What do you expect BARC to provide for you?”, “How can we get more members to use the radio stations at the clubhouse?”, and “What role do you see BARC playing in the future?”. The answers to these questions will go a long way toward shaping the future of the club for all the members.



Recently, I purchased 5 Baofeng radios that BARC will provide to new members who are new hams when they join the club and pay the yearly dues. I program them, too, so new hams can get on the air right away. Speaking of dues, it is now 2022 and time to make sure you are up-to-date with your dues payments. I will be sending out an email with a list of all who have paid so far as a reminder. Dues are \$15 per year per person or \$18 per year for a family. You can send a check made out to BARC and send it to **BARC, P.O. Box 73, Bellbrook, OH 45305**, or even better, **you can use PayPal and send your dues to w8lrj@arrl.net**

Another big purchase for the club is a new 2m repeater from BridgeCom systems, the BCR-50V VHF repeater. This will replace our old 2m Yaesu repeater that failed last November. The new repeater supports EchoLink and AllStar so those services may back soon. The repeater is on order and should be shipped by the time you read this newsletter.



In the future, I will provide an insider's look at the BARC repeater site and what goes in to building a repeater.

Thank you for your support of this great club!

73, John, [W8LRJ](mailto:w8lrj@arrl.net)



BARC Field Day Report

Ray Hitt, [N8VMX](#)

Greetings to all, I hope you are managing to stay warm this Winter. Except for Winter Field Day, things are quiet in terms of preparing for ARRL Field Day to be held 25-26 June 2022. There are a couple things to mention though.



I reached out to Sugarcreek Park District and reserved Shelter #1 at Sackett Wright Park to host W8DGN's Field Day setup as in years past. So, we have a reservation, the Park District is excited to host us again. For those of you new to BARC or the Bellbrook area, here's a map link to [Sackett Wright Park Shelter #1](#).

In March or April (I haven't decided yet), we will start having Field Day Committee meetings and mapping out our strategy for another successful and fun Field Day. Given our recent use of surveys, I may put together a survey to gauge BARC member preferences before we launch our planning.

Something to consider right now is how you want to participate. I will be asking for volunteers for the following Committee assignments: **Antennas, Power, Stations, Education, Social Media, Food, Safety, Logging, Public Affairs, Photography, Message Handling, and Transportation** to name a few. Think about how you want to contribute your time and skills to help make BARC's Field Day a success once again!



Hospitality & Library News

Natinka Siwecki, [KD8NUA](#)

What, Where, and When?

The Bellbrook Amateur Radio Club is very active in most, if not all aspects of the Amateur Radio hobby. We participate in emergency communications, Field Day, contesting, skills and tech nights, and community events, etc. But behind it all is the hospitality and fellowship aspect of our club.

BARC has a number of annual events each year that help bring us together even more as a club. In March we have our **Annual Dinner Meeting**, usually at a restaurant, where we can have a short meeting and a meal together. **Field Day**, in June, is one of my favorites and a favorite of many of our members. If you were thinking “I bet there’s a meal in there somewhere” you guessed correctly! We always have a Family & Friends dinner with Dots Chicken as the guest of honor. **July 4th is BARC’s Birthday** and sometime close to that date we try to have an Open House for our members and others to come and get to know us a little better. Our **October Chili Dinner** is a very popular event where members and their families can come together to sample a variety of member made chili and other goodies. On the first Friday after Christmas is our **BARC Annual Marion’s Pizza Lunch**. I’m hoping that we can start it up again in December. One of our popular events is the **BARC Dinner and Movie Night** which has been on hiatus, but we have plans to start it up again.

You can come to one or all of our BARC events, and you will find plenty of Food, Fun and Fellowship with a lot of amateur radio thrown in.

BARC Library

The BARC Library consists of donated books, magazines, and other media. At this time, we don’t have a complete listing of the media to share online. The library is categorized by topic, and since it is small, it is easy to navigate. Any member can check out anything from the library. We just ask that you use the sign-out sheet and return the item in a timely manner. We will be adding new updated material to our library in the near future, and if you have donations to the BARC Library just contact me.



Happy Reading!

73, Tink, [KD8NUA](#)



Public Service

Don Parker, [KB8PSL](#)

Bellbrook/Sugarcreek Community Service Day 2022

Wednesday December 15, 2022, I represented BARC at a meeting with the Bellbrook Lions Club President and representatives from area organizations at the Community Support Center. The Lions Club wants to organize a community half day event to clean up Bellbrook/Sugarcreek Twp. and assist any citizen with assorted chores.

A slogan was developed: **Beautify Bellbrook/Sugarcreek Twp.**

Potential Project Ideas focus on 5 key elements:

1. Targeted areas to clean up within the parks
2. Targeted areas to clean up within the city
3. Targeted areas to clean up within Township
4. Educational component- proper recycling of assorted items
5. Targeted community members who will need assistance with some outside chores.

The date for this event will be September 10, 2022. The event will run from 9:00 am until 12:00 noon with a wrap up gathering afterwards. The primary meeting location should be at the Lions Club Festival area. As the group continues to meet, additional information will be provided.



The annual **Sugar Maple Festival/Parade** will be held **April 22, 23, 24** in Bellbrook. The BARC club will once again, be providing ham radio communications for the parade on Saturday from 0900 - 11:30 a.m. Ham Radio operators will be needed to cover the parade line up and parade route. As we get closure to the event additional information will be provided.

<https://www.sugarmaplefestival.com/>



73, Don, [KB8PSL](#)



Installing my BARC Auction Win – a Vertical Antenna

Robert DeSonia, [WS8M](#)

Since getting an HF radio in May, I've been using a homemade fan-dipole installed in the attic. As a new ham, I had high hopes for my first antenna build, but I found over the summer that there was some room for improvement. First, the noise floor of an antenna sitting on top of the house seemed pretty high; S5 is the lowest noise-floor I ever saw on my IC-7300 for the 20 & 40m bands. Furthermore, the QRM that blessed me when a box fan or the kitchen mixer turns-on was an absolute joy to behold.

The other issue – which may be more significant, depending on who you ask – was the induced RF interference I created on household electronics. My son often popped into my shack/office/music room to lodge a complaint. His bedroom, you see, is on the second floor just below the center of the dipole – not the optimal location. His gaming computer wasn't very tolerant to my emissions, and clip-on ferrite rings from Amazon were not the magic cure-all that I had hoped. I thought better than pull out the FCC Part 15 rule-book and tell him "Tough noogies, bud." No FT8 while he was gaming was the reasonable compromise.

I eventually came to the conclusion that it was time for my second HF antenna build. I didn't have much in the way of tall trees in my backyard, so I set my sights on a self-supporting vertical. As I was wrestling with all the design trade-offs involved with a homemade vertical, I found myself at the infamous BARC Auction where a Hustler 4BTV vertical (covering 10, 15, 20, and 40m bands) came up for bid. It was donated by El Presidente Jim, looked to be a bit weathered/loved, but quite useable. I threw out a \$10 bid and found myself with a vertical antenna. After replacing a couple of clamps and giving the SO-239 connector a good cleaning, it was ready to go back into service.



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Installing my BARC Auction Win – a Vertical Antenna

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I had already determined the desired location to be the back edge of my lot, as far away from the house as possible, so I took a trip to R&L to get the required coax. I took a risk by direct burying the RG-213 cable, even though it is not exactly rated for that. Building antennas is one of my interests in the hobby, so I likely will be onto my next antenna project before that becomes an issue. After soldering connectors, installing another lightning protector, and some light shovel work in my lawn, I had connectivity between the shack and the antenna location.

Being somewhat lazy by nature, I just sledgehammered a galvanized steel pipe 4 feet into the ground, skipping any post hole digging and concrete work. I bolted the antenna to the pipe and connected the coax. I knew I needed radials, but I checked out the antenna before proceeding any further. Yep, the antenna analyzer showed appropriate SWR dips – a green light to proceed in my book!

I was looking for the most economical wire for radials and eventually realized that I had it in my own basement collecting dust – a bit of leftover CAT3 cable. Since each radial doesn't carry much current, this should work just fine for a 100W rig. I pulled out the individual wires from the cable and started cutting 1/8th wave (on 40m band) segments. I got 24 radials, shy of the 32 radials I desired, but good enough for now. After attaching a lug connector to each bundle of 8 wires, connecting it to the ground plate and laying a radial wire every 15° around the antenna, I moved on to tuning the antenna.



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Installing my BARC Auction Win – a Vertical Antenna

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Remember the first snow of this fall? That was the day I so wisely thought I'd tune the antenna. Just a few tweaks of lengths between antenna segments and I will be done, I thought. Ha! I connected my antenna analyzer (actually a NanoVNA) in my shack, pointed my desktop's camera to it, and started up Skype so I could view it at the antenna site. I confidently went outside and started adjusting the antenna according to what I was viewing on my phone.

I followed the instructions and did the 10m and 15m bands without much fuss. While tuning the 20m band, though, I found that I didn't have enough adjustment available; I slid the tube as far down as I could over the other connecting tube, but couldn't get the section short enough to tune it. Before getting out the hacksaw and forcing it to be short enough, I did a quick google search. The internet told me to read the manual section on adjusting the traps; that is not generally required for this antenna, so I had not planned on doing that. Fun!

The trap adjustment procedure required me to push the trap down the tube on which it was mounted. Sounds easy enough, but given this antenna has seen some weathering, the pieces in question were not so keen to move easily. Well, until I got my hammer out, that is. After some aggressive tapping, things suddenly broke free, and as is my lot in life, it moved maybe a bit too far. After realizing that pulling the tube out of the trap was significantly harder than hammer it down the tube, I re-assembled the antenna and hoped for the best. I barely have enough tubing now to tune 20m, but I succeeded tuning it.

Voila, I now have a working vertical! The noise floor is significantly lower (about -12dB) and I've not received one grievance concerning any induced interference. I'm looking to modify the antenna to add some other bands by making it a hybrid fan and trapped vertical.

73, Robert, [WS8M](#)



BARC Member Plates

Get Yours In Today!

Thanks to a comment by Tink, [KD8NUA](#), we have an opportunity to display a few of our BARC Member License Plates

Add yours to our BARC collection - just send a picture to the [Editor](#)



Trevor Clarke, [K8TRC](#)



Dan Minnix, [KD8YNG](#)



DXing -The Search for Distant Contacts

This column is about all things DX and how they relate to BARC Members.

We're looking for an experienced DXer to write this column

Also looking for any contributions on DX that BARC members have worked

Let's see what our BARC Members have been up to on the bands:

- **Paul, [KD8OPN](#)**, burning up the bands: Holland, **PA**; Serbia, **YU**; Seychelles, **S79KW**; and Western Sahara **S0**
- **Ricardo, [KA3ZQX](#)**, reported 10 meter openings and lots of Technicians can work DX!
- **Barkley, [KB8PMI](#)**, had a great contact with Italy **I**, on 20 meters
- **Ryan, [KE8DKC](#)**, made his first DX contact with Manitoba, Canada
- **Randy, [KAOAZS](#)**, continues to blast the bands with contacts on 80, 60, and 10 meters!
- **John, [W8LRJ](#)**, made FT-8 contacts with the Kingdom of Eswatini (in South Africa) and Mauritius Island (in the Indian Ocean)

Don't forget to sign up for CLUB LOG: <https://clublog.org/>

Sign Up Now

Registering is a simple process. Your account is based on your email address, so you'll need to validate that you are who you say you are, by inputting a code that is emailed to you when you submit this form. Once that's done, you can carry on and add your call sign(s) and upload your logs.

Tip: If you already have a Club Log account, you should not need to sign up again to add more call signs. You can add more call signs to your existing account from the 'Settings' page. If you have lost your password, you can request a reset.

Sign Up To Club Log

Your Full Name:

Your Email Address:

Choose a password: (Minimum 5 characters, with a least one number)

Confirm your password:

Enter the sixth number from this sequence: (This helps prevent automated abuse)

0 0 4 4 1 6

Make sure your email address is correct - you will receive a message you need to complete the registration

A note about privacy and conditions of use

If you upload logs to Club Log, they will be carefully protected. I consider it vital that only the owner of a log can see the QSOs within that log, and Club Log follows this principle in every detail. However, part of the purpose of Club Log is to analyse and report on worldwide trends, for example to create most-wanted lists. This is done by analysing as many QSOs as possible, including those you upload. Please be sure you are happy with this before you join.

73 - Michael G7VJR

Club Log © Michael Wells G7VJR | Privacy | Contact | Reflector

(Continued on next page)



DXing -The Search for Distant Contacts

(Continued from previous page)

BARC ClubLog DX League Standings

As described in the Nov 21 "Chasing Purples - FT-8 News" ClubLog is a great way to track your DX contacts relative to other Hams world-wide. It supports various DX Leagues including one for BARC (Club League #123). (KM8AM highlighted because my account pulled the records)



[Link to BARC League in ClubLog](#)

DXCC Leagues

The leagues are rebuilt once per day. Only callsigns active in the last 12 months are included in the league tables. The maximum size of a league is 2000 participants.

<input checked="" type="radio"/> No Mode Filter	<input type="radio"/> CW	<input type="radio"/> Phone	<input type="radio"/> Data
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Rank by DXCCs	<input type="radio"/> Rank by slots	Rank by band: Totals ▼	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 160M <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 80M <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 60M <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 40M <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 30M <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20M <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 17M <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 15M <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12M <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10M <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 6M			
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Current entities	<input type="radio"/> Current and deleted	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Worked	<input type="radio"/> Confirmed
<input checked="" type="radio"/> No Date Filter	<input type="radio"/> 2022	<input type="radio"/> 2021	<input type="radio"/> Last 12 months
Filter by club/continent:	BARC - Bellbrook Amateur Radio Club ▼		

Generate DXCC League

League for BARC - Bellbrook Amateur Radio Club

Rank	Callsign	160	80	60	40	30	20	17	15	12	10	6	DXCC ▼	Slots	Range
1	K8ST	71	112	113	183	211	302	223	202	138	154	55	334	1764	80 yrs
2	KM8AM+1 ★	109	149	103	211	184	277	210	202	128	152	15	295	1740	45 yrs
3	W8ASA+2 ★	69	95	107	160	160	237	205	178	127	151	29	265	1518	16 yrs
4	W8NU	56	87	106	174	137	211	163	167	113	95	6	241	1315	4 yrs
5	K8SJM ★	14	70	73	155	157	180	166	137	107	71	23	218	1153	4 yrs
6	W8LRJ	1	4	1	23	31	137	80	97	5	36	2	173	417	4 yrs
7	KA0AZS	0	39	10	63	84	108	97	110	36	58	7	136	612	44 yrs
8	W8DGN	4	40	0	61	0	111	3	110	0	95	1	134	425	8 yrs
9	AC8ZU+1	1	4	0	87	57	101	83	65	0	8	4	127	410	5 yrs
10	KD8OPN	4	3	0	85	0	103	36	14	1	2	1	127	249	5 yrs
		160	80	60	40	30	20	17	15	12	10	6			
11	W8UD+1	1	9	0	65	0	61	11	43	0	19	0	96	209	3 yrs
12	WS8M	0	2	13	64	17	68	1	4	0	2	0	88	171	1 yrs
13	KE8LZD	0	2	0	21	0	62	36	27	5	9	0	81	162	3 yrs
14	KD8YNG	0	3	0	30	0	38	6	43	0	20	0	72	140	7 yrs



Chasing Purples - FT-8 News

Stu Holzer, [K8ST](#) and Steve Miller [K8SJM](#)



In this space we'll bring you information around the digital mode FT-8. It will have a DX or Contesting slant



Following up on the email Bob French AC8ZU sent out via the BARC reflector on 12/3/21 regarding the FT8/FT4 contest that was held December 4th and 5th, 2021.

The results of the contest have been published and can be found at this URL: <https://www.rttycontesting.com/ft-roundup/2021-results/2021-single-op-results/>

The state of Ohio was represented well in this contest. **BARC members Steve K8SJM and Bob AC8ZU finished top 10 in Ohio.**

KC8YDS	#4 World, #4 North America, #1 Ohio 74,636
KI6DY	#5 World, #5 North America, #2 Ohio 74,060
KM8V	#3 Ohio 36,925
KA8OAT	#4 Ohio 32,850
K8SJM	#5 Ohio 25,200
N8NVI	#6 Ohio 24,382
ND3N	#7 Ohio
AB8M	#8 Ohio
AC8ZU	#9 Ohio
K8RGI	#10 Ohio
N8RKC	#11 Ohio
N4EL	#12 Ohio
AA8SW	#13 Ohio
N8CWU	#14 Ohio
K8ZT	#15 Ohio
KE8ESJ	#16 Ohio
K9NW	#17 Ohio

The next contest is slated for the first full weekend of December 2022. It will be here before you know it! The home page for the contest is at URL: <https://www.rttycontesting.com/ft-roundup/>

73, Stu, [K8ST](#) & Steve, [K8SJM](#)



CW 'The Original Digital Mode'

Ken Gunton, [W8ASA](#)

I was delighted when George, [KE8SNS](#), asked me to come up on the air for a slow-speed CW QSO! We both made errors, but who cares? My key, an expensive Begali, was sticking and sometimes sent out a string of dits. It's reset now, so I can't blame the key any more – HI HI! We chatted for about 18 minutes total, including George having trouble with his transceiver not always wanting to go back into receive mode after transmitting.



I think I've talked about a **Facebook Slow Speed CW page**. **If you're still learning, this is a really good group to join.** Every day, someone posts their QRG, looking for slow speed contacts. Otherwise, you can go to ~50 KHz or so above the bottom band edges and find slow CW contacts. Also, [K1USN Slow Speed Tests](#) run every few days if you want to try a contest on CW.

Do you want to try higher speeds? There are a number of CWops contests throughout the month. Try one of those short contests for burst of CW energy! Just listening to the various speeds will help with your comprehension.

Several club members have mentioned to me that they are in the process of learning CW. I'd like to invite any or all of you to send me a short narrative/blurb on your experience. What program/materials are you using? Which have you tried and not liked? What was your first QSO like? Were you nervous (of course you were – we all were)?

I have found a handy CW QSO example template, which was put together by the folks at [CW4U.org](#). It gives examples of the rhythm and exchanges of typical QSOs, and shows you some of the most common abbreviations and Q Codes. Check it out on the next page.

As always, don't overthink learning Morse Code. Relax! We've all been through the nervousness stages, and all have made mistakes during QSOs.

Remember: if you want to make a slow-speed, informal QSO sometime, send me an e-mail to w8asa@arrl.net and we'll set a sked for a contact. I will send as slowly as you want.

Let's have FUN WITH CW! ...73 until next month.

73, Ken, [W8ASA](#)

(Continued on next page)



[CW Resources – CWops](#)



CW 'The Original Digital Mode'

(Continued from previous page)

CW QSO - example template

CW4U



QRL? ----- QRL? DE **AA1ZZ** <K> -----
CQ CQ CQ DE **AA1ZZ** **AA1ZZ** PSE <K>

AA1ZZ DE **BB2HH** PSE <KN>

BB2HH DE **AA1ZZ** GM DR OM
ES TNX FER CALL =
UR RST 599 5NN =
NAME name1ZZ name1ZZ =
QTH city1ZZ city1ZZ =
HW CPI? **BB2HH** DE **AA1ZZ** <KN>

AA1ZZ DE **BB2HH** GM DR name1ZZ =
UR RST 599 5NN =
NAME name2HH name2HH =
QTH city2HH city2HH =
HW CPI? **AA1ZZ** DE **BB2HH** <KN>

R R **BB2HH** DE **AA1ZZ** =
TKS FER FB QSO DR OM name2HH =
73 ES GUD DX HOPE CUAGN <AR>
BB2HH DE **AA1ZZ** <SK> TU

AA1ZZ DE **BB2HH** OK name1ZZ =
73 TNK FER QSO ES QSL VIA BURO =
AA1ZZ DE **BB2HH** <SK> TU E E

E E -----
CQ CQ CQ DE **AA1ZZ** **AA1ZZ** PSE <K>

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION *

R OK ALL **BB2HH** DE **AA1ZZ** =
RIG TRX-MODEL ES PWR 15W
ES ANT DIPOLE =
WX HR SUNNY ES DRY TEMP 26C =
HW CPY? **BB2HH** DE **AA1ZZ** <KN>

Notes:-
• The red edge boxes are if you call (AA1ZZ), replace it with your call sign.
• The black boxes with the text in italics and darker background, if you answer (BB2HH), set your call sign.
• Modify the text using light gray with the appropriate information.
• * Check the book "CW 4 U" to review every step of a QSO and the variations, the use of prosigns, abbreviations, structures, etc.

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CONTEST

CQ TEST AA1ZZ
BB2HH
BB2HH 5NN xxx
5NN xxx TU
TU {AA1ZZ continue}
xxx = contest exchange data

R S T - signal report
5 5 9 -
5 7 9 -
5 9 9 -

PROSIGNS

< K >	Open change	< AR >	End of message
< KN >	Change for you	< SK >	End of contact
< BK >	Fast change	< AS >	Wait, please. Make a pause
< BT >	Space or stop, also with < = >	< SN >	Received, also R, OK <VE>

ABBREVIATIONS

AGN	Again	N	No, negative, incorrect
ANT	Antenna	NR	Number
BK	Break, break in	NIL	Nothing. Not in log
BURO	Bureau	GG	Going
B4	Before	OM	Old Man
C	Correct, yes, copy	PWR	Power
CL	Call - Close	PSE	Please
CONDX	Conditions	R	Roger, OK, C, Y
CPI	Copy	RPT	Repeat / Report (RPRT)
CU	See you	RIG	Station equipment
CUAGN	See You Again	RST	Signal report format
DE	This Is, from	SRI	Sorry
DR	Dear (DR OM)	TEMP	Temperature (F or C)
ES	And (GL ES DX)	TNX	Thanks (TKS)
FB	Fine business	TU	Thank you
FER	For... (FR,4)	U	You
HI	The telegraph laugh; High	UR	Yours
HR	Here; Hear	VY	Very
HW?	How, How copy?	WX	Weather
IS	IS	73	Best regards

GM Good morning **GA** G. Afternoon **GE** G. evening **GL** G. luck

Q CODES

information	question (?)
QRA The call sign of my station is ...	What is the call sign of your station?
QRG Your exact frequency is ...	Will you tell me my exact freq. ... ?
QRK The intelligibility of your signals	Will you tell me my exact frequency?
QRL I am busy. Please do not interfere.	Are you busy?
QRM I am being interfered with ...	Are you being interfered with... ?
QRN am troubled by static,	Are you troubled by static?
QRO Increase transmitter power.	Shall I increase transmitter power?
QRP Decrease transmitter power.	Shall I decrease transmitter power?
QRQ Send faster (... wpm).	Shall I send faster?
QRS Send more slowly (... wpm).	Shall I send more slowly?
QRT Stop sending.	Shall I stop sending?
QRV I am ready.	Are you ready?
QRX I will call you again at ... hours.	When will you call me again?
QRZ You are being called by ... on ...	Who is calling me?
QSB Are my signals fading?	Your signals are fading
QSL I am acknowledging receipt.	Can you acknowledge receipt?
QSO I can communicate with ...	Can you communicate with ...
QSY Change to trx on another freq...	Shall I change to trx on another freq?
QTH My position is ...	What is your position?

WEATHER - WX

SUNNY sunny	CLR clear skies	FROST frozen	RAINY rainy
COLD cold	DRY dry	FOG fog	STORMY stormy
CLOUDY cloudy	FINE nice	HOT hot	WARM warm



Kontest Korner

Ken Gunton, [W8ASA](http://www.w8asa.com)

[WA7BNM Contest Calendar: Home](http://www.wa7bnm.com)

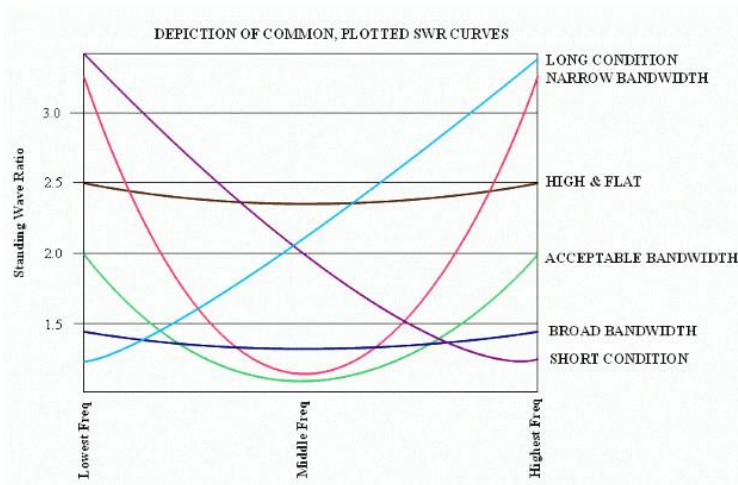
[3830 Contests \(3830scores.com\)](http://www.3830scores.com)



North American QSO Party

A funny thing happened last month on the way to the [SSB North American QSO Party \(NAQP\)](http://www.naqp.com), which took place January 23-24. My only wire antenna is a ¼-wave long wire for 160 meters. Because it's an exact quarter wave, it is resonant ONLY on 160, and presents a VSWR of 25:1 or more on all the other contest bands. My MFJ-998 tuner can only bring that down to a little under 3:1 or so. Today's modern transmitters are smarter than we are, and my ICOM 7610 decided that wasn't good enough, so it went into self-protect mode and limited output to about 30 Watts instead of the 100 Watts the contest allowed me. **This meant that two of the three best nighttime bands were going to be a problem for me – 40 and 80 Meters.**

An antenna with a VSWR that high, even though the VSWR seen by the transmitter is only 3:1, is going to be extremely inefficient, on both receive AND transmit! With the transmitter only putting out 30 Watts, how much of that was actually getting to the antenna? Much less, I assure you. The losses in the tuner were significant, with some power wasted in heat in the matching network. **In effect I was almost down to QRP levels on 80 and 40. My digital wattmeter couldn't even display the power output, because it was so low.**



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You know what? I didn't have an award-winning score, and I wasn't usually answered on my first call on 80 and 40, but it was still fun. Maybe the challenge of operating with low power helped. I still managed to make 62 QSOs on 80 Meters and 15 QSOs on 40 Meters. **In fact, I made more QSOs on 80 than any other single band, and even put together a couple of runs on 80.**

To make a long story short, **you don't have to have a big, fancy, expensive station to have a great time in a contest. You don't need huge antennas** (don't get me wrong, though – a big antenna higher up is great to have!). *(Continued on next page)*



Kontest Korner

(Continued from previous page)

[WA7BNM Contest Calendar: Home](#)

[3830 Contests \(3830scores.com\)](#)

Let's see what's on tap for us in February: (Source: contestcalendar.com/contestcal.html)

<u>Contest</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Comment</u>
10-10 Winter SSB Contest	Feb 5-6	If ten Meters is open, this will be a BLAST!
CQ Worldwide RTTY WPX	Feb 12-13	RTTY, anyone? Lots of fun
ARRL International CW	Feb 19-20	Slow or high speed, it's always a great time
CQ 160-Meter SSB Contest	Feb 25-27	Winter is a good time for 160 Meters
RSGB FT4 Contest	Feb 28	Only 90 minutes long. Need England?

There are always state QSO parties on the weekends. Work that last state for your WAS

Slow Speed CW? Try the various [K1USN Slow Speed Contests](#) – short and sweet

Remember, if you participate in any contests, please submit your log to both the contest organizers, and 3830scores.com. When you file, the club is the

73, Ken, [W8ASA](#) “Bellbrook Amateur Radio Club”

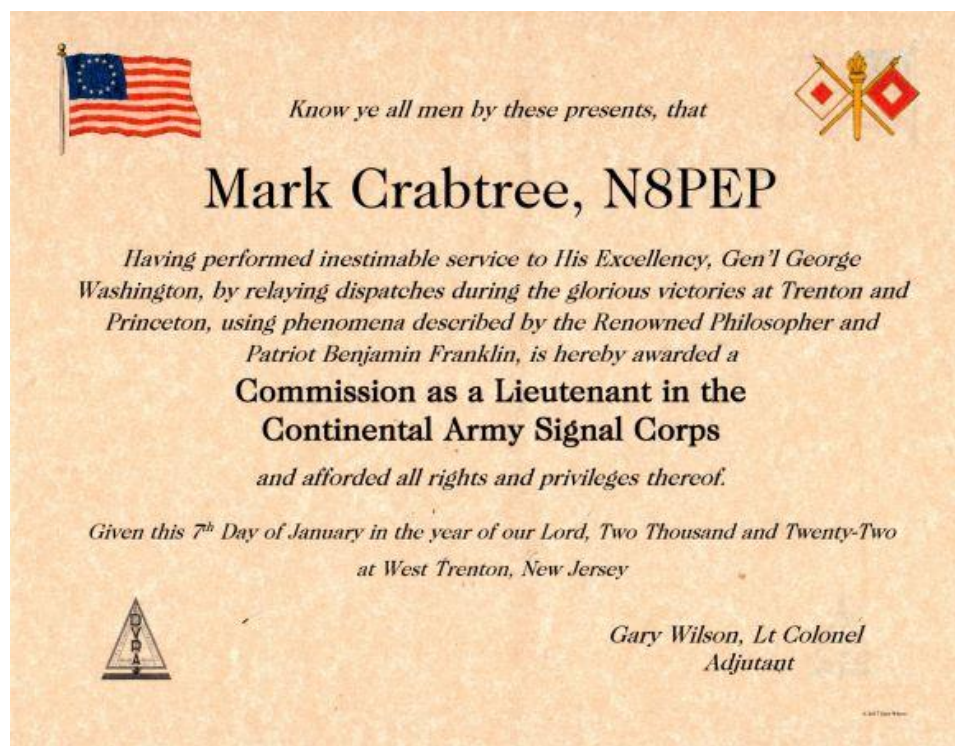


Special Event Stations (SEs) On The Air

Paul Sharp, [KD8OPN](#)

Every month I include a SES certificate from one of our members. This month's certificate is from Mark Crabtree, N8PEP, my first Elmer. Now that Mark is commissioned as a Lieutenant, he is applying for back pay.

You too could be the lucky recipient of these certificates to wallpaper your entire house by contacting these exciting SES!



(Continued on next page)

Here are some links you can follow to find many SESs that suit your interest:

- http://www.arrl.org/special_events/search/page:1/model:Event
- <https://rsgb.org/main/operating/licensing-novs-visitors/special-event-stations/>
- https://www.qsl.net/va3rj/spevents_dx.html DX Special Event Stations (qsl.net)
- <https://www.amateurradio.eu/2022/01/01/european-amateur-radio-special-event-stations>
- <https://www.amateurradio.eu/diary/eu-dx-contest-1800-5-feb-to-1800-6-feb>



Special Event Stations (SEs) On The Air

(Continued from previous page)

The winter months must be a slow time for SES because I found very few for Feb 2022.

Here is my pick of the litter of SES that I think will be of interest to my fellow BARC members.

02/05/2022 | Traveler's Rest RV Resort and Golf Course 50th Anniversary. Feb 5, 1200Z-2000Z, W5O, Dade City, FL. Traveler's Rest ARC. 7.240 14.240. Certificate. K4TRR Anniversary, 29129 Johnston Rd. Lot 09-03, Dade City, FL 33523. Members of K5TRR (club station for Traveler's Rest RV Resort and Golf Course) celebrating 50 years of service to the RV-Ham traveler. k4trrinfo@gmail.com

02/07/2022 | 50th Anniversary of GERATOL W.A.S.Net. Feb 7-Feb 20, 1000Z-2100Z, W1G, Wheelwright, MA. GERATOL Worked All States Net. 3.668 During Net Time 20 Meter SSB 40 Meter SSB. QSL Special event station, W1G will be active to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the GERATOL Worked All States Net. A special QSL card will be available to those who send an SASE with their QSL. geratol.net

02/07/2022 | Abraham Lincoln's Birthday. Feb 7-Feb 14, 1200Z-0600Z, W9L/K9L, Lerna, IL. National Trail Amateur Radio Club. 14.250 7.250. QSL. W9L will only be used on location at the farm owned by President Lincoln's father and stepmother. Special event QSL cards can be obtained by sending a SASE to NATIONAL TRAIL AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INC Attn: Lincoln Birthday PO BOX 903 Effingham, IL 62401. www.nationaltrailarc.org

02/12/2022 | Washington's Birthday. Feb 12, 1500Z-2100Z, W0ARC, Washington, IA. Washington Area Amateur Radio Club, Inc.. 14.250 7.250. QSL. Mark Lukins, 802 N 2nd Ave, Washington, IA 52353. SASE please. www.waarc.net

02/19/2022 | George Washington's Birthday. Feb 19-Feb 20, 1700Z-1000Z, K4US, Alexandria, VA. Mount Vernon Amateur Radio Club. 14.260 14.074 7.040. QSL. MVARC, P.O. Box 7234, Alexandria, VA 22307 QSL with SASE to: MVARC P.O. Box 7234 Alexandria, VA 22307 mvarc.org.

Please send us a picture of any SES awards that you'd like to share with BARC

Show off your accomplishments!

73, Paul, KD8OPN



My Story: New(ish) BARC Member Spotlight

Robert DeSonia, [WS8M](#)

I was licensed in February 2021 and joined BARC in March, so I'm relatively new to the Amateur Radio scene. When I was a youngling in the 70's, I played with walkie-talkies and played DJ with a Mr. Microphone, but moved on to photography in High School, a hobby I still occasionally enjoy. I do remember building a crystal radio when I was about 12, but that only proved that I could build a circuit from a schematic with my Radio Shack Electronics Kit.



The decades rolled along as I graduated from the University of Michigan with a degree in Electrical Engineering, married my high school sweetheart, had 4 kids, moved to Hawai'i, moved to Massachusetts, moved back to Hawai'i, then finally to Dayton. My career is based on remote sensing, image processing, and other electro-optical / infrared sensing – nothing RF. If it wasn't a photon, I wasn't all that interested until recently.

What changed? Well, that is a story on its own. My wife, Tammy (N8TSD), is somewhat of a low-effort prepper. She is not the super-serious secret bunker hidden in the woods prepper, but admittedly, that is exactly what a secret bunker prepper would claim publicly. You will just have to trust me when I say she just wants to be prepared -- if it is not too much extra effort. One incident that started it all, I believe, was the 2006 magnitude 6.7 earthquake when we lived on Maui. It didn't cause huge damage, but it did knock out electricity island-wide and, soon after, cellular phone service. Basic communication services like mobile phone can indeed become unavailable unexpectedly.

(Continued on next page)



My Story: New(ish) BARC Member Spotlight

(Continued from previous page)

When our friend, Jim Gifford [KD8APT](#), mentioned Amateur Radio to Tammy, that peaked her interest. She shared what Jim had discussed and I told her that if she studied for the amateur license test, I'd do the same. We went to the library and borrowed the ARRL study guide for Technician. We also watched [KEØOG's YouTube](#) videos as Jim suggested. I went through that material in short order, and while Tammy was working through the Technician's guide, I went back to the library and got the General study guide. It was 30 years since I took those electro-magnetism courses in college, but I surprised myself with how much I remembered. I went through General and travelled back to the library for the Advanced study guide while we waited for the scheduled exam day. In late January, Tammy passed her Technician while I really got my \$15 fee's worth by passing all three.

In my shack, I have an Icom IC-7300 and a TYT MD-9600 DMR radio for VHF/UHF. In the summer, I added a his & hers set of HTs for mobile use to round-out our collection. I have been trying various aspects of the hobby, but I find technical areas like building antennas quite interesting – my EE background has something to do with that, maybe. Once I started digging into the various areas of the hobby, I knew I found something that would hold my interest for a long time.



[TYT MD-9600 DMR TRANSCEIVER-2.jpg \(943x498\)](#)

I've also been Parks-on-the-Air (POTA) hunting for about 6 months from my shack. In the last couple of months, I have been preparing to mobilize my HF setup to easily take it out to a park. Of course, that required me to build a small wire antenna that I could fling in a tree. That adventure may be the genesis of a future article.

73, Robert, [WS8M](#)

We Need Your Bio!

It's easy, just take any back issue of Full Quietng 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)



Current BARC Member Interviews

Ray Hitt, [N8VMX](#)

Hi, I'm Ray Hitt, the BARC Field Day Coordinator. I wanted to take some time to let you know a little more about myself. Thanks for the opportunity to do that.

When you were first licensed? I got my Tech license in 1992. I was a Tech for 10 years, then in 2002 upgraded all at once to General, Advanced, and Amateur Extra after cramming through all the ARRL books and learning Morse Code. I'm not sure I would recommend that approach, it took a while to recover from that!

How did you learn about Ham Radio? As part of the University of Cincinnati engineering coop program, I worked at Magnavox in Fort Wayne in the early 1980s. I was in a lab with ex-Navy engineers. They chided me for having a CB which they said was "not a real radio". We took a road trip to the Dayton HamVention, and I was hooked from that point on.



Why did you become a Ham? When I was around 10, our neighbor, a retired railroad engineer, gave me a broken vacuum tube radio to play with, and a box of spare tubes. That got me interested in electronics and building kits and eventually into electrical engineering.

I am a freedom-loving person, so unlike the case with a 40 channel CB or a 25 channel family radio, with a ham radio I can tune up anywhere I'm authorized and communicate with anyone, using a many operating modes and power levels.

(Continued on next page)



Current BARC Member Interviews

(Continued from previous page)

What are your current Ham Radio interests? I like talking to my fellow BARC members on 2m and 440, and lately DMR. I spend a little time on HF, which is improving with the sunspots starting to reappear. I like digital modes and have used PSK-31 and lately FT4 and FT8. I read up on antennas, model them, build them, measure their performance, and see if the computer models are accurate. I also am a fan of radio scanners and software defined radios (SDRs).

What are you most passionate about regarding Ham Radio? Public service. I think one of the core values of Amateur Radio is to help when communications are needed. Public Service events, like parades, are practice for the time when we would need to provide communications during an emergency. I operated once at Miami Valley South at a nurse's station during a flu pandemic drill, little did I know we would actually end up in something like that.

I also like teaching the hobby to newcomers and have taught segments of the Technician classes offered at the BARC clubhouse. Ironically, I could not convince any of my children to pick up the hobby – I would get eye-rolls from my daughters, and a humorous look from my son. There's hope for my grandkids though, Harper is a natural with a mic!

Tell us about your stations (past, present, and future). I started out with a Radio Shack HTX-202 2m handheld. I put up a 30-foot tower with a Comet tri-band base station antenna. When I moved, I put up a similar tower with the same Comet antenna. I also have strung an 80m dipole between two trees with a fiberglass mast.

After I got my first Saturn SL2, I added a Yaesu SL2, I added a Yaesu FT-100 and 9 ft whip to operate mobile. I replaced it with a Yaesu FY-857D which I still have, and I use an Icom IC-7300 in my home.

I supplement my ham radios with SDR USB dongles. Plugged into the Raspberry Pi, they help search for band activity. I also use the Raspberry Pi to control the digital modes on my IC-7300.



(Continued on next page)



Current BARC Member Interviews

(Continued from previous page)

I supplement my Ham Radios with SDR USB dongles. Plugged into the Raspberry Pi, they help search for band activity. I also use the Raspberry Pi to control the digital modes on my IC-7300.

My latest portable radio is the AnyTone AT-D878UV. It covers normal analog 2m and 70cm, but also does digital DMR and APRS. It's a challenge to program but manageable with a computer.

What do you do for a living? I'm an engineer in the Air Force Research Laboratory. Ironically, while I'm very pro-communication as a Ham, in my job, I'm into communications jamming (not our own!). I did the same thing as a coop college student, but technology has changed over 40 years, and my responsibilities have grown over the years.

Would you like to say something about your family? I met my wife, Lisa, while attending UC, so we've known each other for 40 years or so and have been married for 37 years. We have four grown children we're very proud of, and now have two granddaughters and two grandsons. When the grandkids are here, our house goes from very quiet to chaotic in a blink of an eye!

Do you have other hobbies or interests? I'm very interested in computers, I learned Linux quite a while ago, then learned Python during the pandemic. I love music and learned piano and trumpet back in my youth. I'm slowly learning guitar when I get the rare chance. I enjoy soccer but need to take it easy at my age. I also like to fly quadcopters and go fishing up in Michigan with my brother.

Any other comments for BARC? I enjoy the club, you're all a great bunch of people. I've enjoyed being the Field Day Coordinator the past few years, it's a great way to get close to the club members who take part. And a good way to eat Dot's chicken!

73, Ray, [N8VMX](#)



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 [GCARESWinlink 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 the rewards 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: http://smile.amazon.com/about/ref=smi_se_ft_abt_saas 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

