

Minutes-August 21, 2025, General Meeting

By Jim Gifford N8KET, Secretary

Executive Committee Members Present

President: Geoff Kline, KI5VNB, Relocation Committee

Vice President: Eric Bramini, KC8OPY, Relocation Committee

Secretary: Jim Gifford N8KET, Relocation Committee

Senior Director: Bob French AC8ZU, POTA, Tech Night

Junior Director: Don Macon KE8WVJ, Relocation Committee

Executive Committee Members Absent

Treasurer: John Westerkamp W8LRJ, Webmaster, Comm Center, , Relocation Committee

President Geoff Kline KI5VNB led with the Pledge of Allegiance. Introductions were made and we recognized visitors and new and advanced hams.

July meeting minutes

Ken Gunton W8ASA moved we accept; Eric Bramini KC8OPY seconded; passed.

Treasurer's report – Geoff Kline subbed for John Westerkamp

John Westerkamp emailed the report earlier:

"We are currently faced with a large number of expenses for our relocation effort and those expenses dominated our August finances. I am attaching a budget below that includes only the relocation expenses so we can track those as we go along and make adjustments where necessary. Our current balance (including the donation mentioned below) is \$12,351.40.

As can be seen in the Relocation Expenses Budget below, anticipated expenses will approach our current bank balance (including the donation). To help with the BARC relocation effort, we are asking for donations from our membership to help offset the costs associated with upgrading the new clubhouse space and purchasing new antennas for the site. Donations are not required and any amount no matter how small would be appreciated. We have funds to cover most of the expenses (maybe all), but our account will be seriously depleted after all is said and done.

To that end, an anonymous donor has generously agreed to match all donations up to a total of \$2000 so your donations are effectively doubled! Thank you to the anonymous donor and thank you to the BARC membership for supporting our relocation effort in any way you can."

Thanks!

John Westerkamp, W8LRJ
Treasurer

Fund	31-Jul-25	Income	Expenses	31-Aug-25
General	\$3,632.30	\$2,312.37	\$1,286.99	\$4,657.68
Comm center	\$1,007.43	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,007.43
Refreshments	\$855.46	\$42.00	\$0.00	\$897.46
Repeater	\$319.53	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$319.53
All Liquid Funds	\$5,814.72	\$2,354.37	\$1,286.99	\$6,882.10
6 Month CD	\$5,469.30	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,469.30
ALL FUNDS	\$11,284.02	\$2,354.37	\$1,286.99	\$12,351.40

Jim Totten WA8HUB moved we accept; Glenn Rodgers WI8O seconded; passed.

Minutes-August 21, 2025, General Meeting

Geoff Kline recognized Ray Hitt's N8VMX work on the newsletter where BARC received 3rd place in the ARRL Ohio Section Newsletter Contest.

Kline provided the following relocation updates:

Old Clubhouse Exit Date

- We have been asked to exit the old clubhouse by the end of September 2025.
 - The school will be turning off water, electric, and heat at the end of September.

Additional Work Party

- We are organizing a work party on Sunday afternoon August 24 at 2pm.
 - The goal is to empty the storage room, and consolidate items marked for moving into one area and items not moving to another area.
- Thank you to all those who have been volunteering the turn outs have been great.

Move Date

- The move date is set for Saturday Sept 6, time yet to be determined (watch your email).
- Emerio Ordonez Barrera KE8JNQ is donating a 26-foot moving truck for the move date and will be coordinating the loading and unloading of the truck.

Work Updates

- Entry pipe for COAX has been installed.
- Polyphasers have been moved to and mounted in the new radio room.
- Radio room specific lockbox has been installed.
- Shelving has been installed in the storage room.
- Carpet is scheduled for Monday August 25 installation.
- Internet installation is Tuesday evening, August 26.
- We have an electrician, waiting on the school to verify which electrical box the electrician can use.

Updates on the clubhouse policies will be published in the September Full Quieting Newsletter.

- Some processes have changed because of this being in an active school.

Ray Hitt has accepted the request to lead the new Antenna Committee.

- Goal of the committee is to address the antenna requirements at the new BARC location rapidly and muster volunteers to work on the antenna installations.

Items not being moved

- Offering items to club members.
 - Donations for relocation expenses are most appreciated.
- Dates to visit the old clubhouse and view items that BARC will not be taking to the new location:
 - Monday Sept 8 – 5:00pm until 7:00pm
 - Thursday Sept 11 – 5:00pm until 7:00pm
 - Sunday Sept 14 – 2:00pm until 4:00pm
 - Thursday Sept 18 – During the membership meeting (tailgate)

Movie night will be held in the new meeting room (this room)

- Next Thursday August 25 at 7pm
- Thursday, September 23 at 7pm

Tech Night this month is cancelled because of the relocation that is in progress.

August 23 – Lions Club SummerFest

- Thank you to those who volunteered.

September 13, 2025 – “BARC in the Wild”

- Location: Cowan Lake State Park – Dance Pavilion by the Disc Golf Course
- Get ready for some radio fun in the great outdoors! The Bellbrook Amateur Radio Club is heading out for a mini-DXpedition at Cowan Lake State Park. We'll be setting up some stations at the Dance Pavilion, making contacts, and enjoying a day together in the field.

Minutes-August 21, 2025, General Meeting

- Bring your own radio or use one of the ones set up for use.
- POTA pileups – want to give parks on the air a try, jump in on a single radio multiple operator station and experience a POTA pileup.
- Fox Hunting – at least one fox will be hidden in the park, bring an HT and find it.
- Food and fellowship – lunch will be provided, even if you don't want to operate, come out relax, enjoy our company.
- Whether your chasing DX, learning about portable ops, doing your first POTA activation, activating your 100th park, finding a fox, or just there to socialize. There is something for everyone.

September 18, 2025 - Membership Meeting

- Held at the old clubhouse – Tailgate party / Farewell to the building
- We will have food

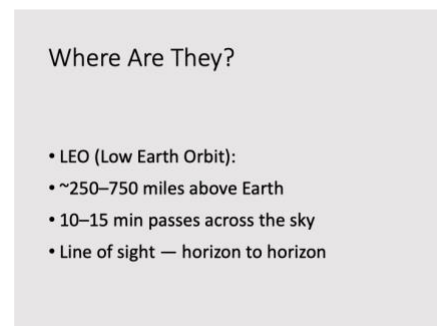
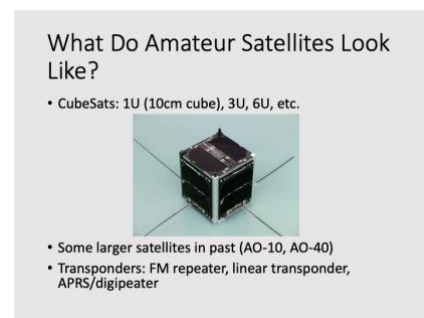
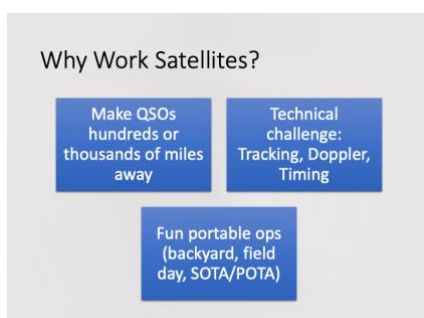
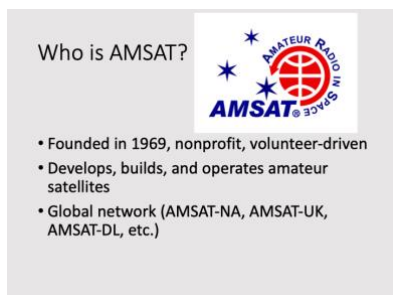
October 5, 2025 – BARC will be at the Bellbrook Fire Department Open House

Any announcements from any coordinators

- Jim Totten announced the next BARC Lunch Bunch is at the China Garden at Airway Center.
- Ray Hitt asked for “brain” and “brawn” volunteers for the Antenna Committee.

Contacting Satellites- Eric Bramini

Because of technical difficulties, the PowerPoint slides could not be shown on the screen. Bramini presented his talk using a directional antenna as an illustration and citing the slides. The PowerPoint presentation is displayed below:



Minutes-August 21, 2025, General Meeting

Tracking Satellites

- Pass prediction apps:
 - AMSAT Droid - Android
 - Heavens Above
 - GoSatWatch - iOS
- PC software:
 - SatPC32 - Windows
 - Gpredict - Linux

What You Need

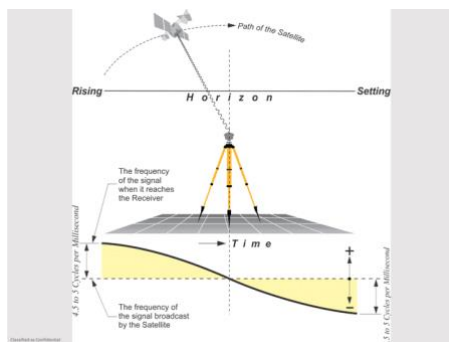
- Dual-band HT (crossband TX/RX is ideal, but not required)
- Handheld directional antenna (Arrow, Elk, or DIY Yagi)
- Prediction app to know when passes happen
- Neighbors that won't think you have lost your mind!

Doppler Shift

- As satellite approaches: frequency shifts higher
- As it moves away: frequency shifts lower
- Example: Train horn or police siren
- FM: shift by ± 10 kHz during pass
- Linear: more precise tuning needed

Tips for Success

- Start by listening only
- Record audio to log QSOs later
- Practice antenna pointing (use ISS or NOAA WX satellites)
- QSO's are rapid fire: Don't tie up the airwaves
 - Don't call CQ, just state callsign and grid square (EM79).
 - When replying to someone else say their call, then your call and gridsquare.



First Targets

- FM voice satellites (SO-50, PO-101)
- ISS digipeater on 145.825 MHz
- Great starting points for beginners

Easiest Entry: FM “EasySats”

- Examples: SO-50, PO-101, ISS repeater (if active)
- Operate like an FM repeater, but in space
- One uplink frequency, one downlink frequency
 - If using single radio, must be capable of odd-splits.

Minutes-August 21, 2025, General Meeting

Amateur Radio Satellites: Quickstart Guide

Beginner-Friendly Satellites

- 1 SO-50 (FM voice repeater, 2m uplink / 70cm downlink)
- 2 PO-101 (FM voice repeater, often active)
- 3 ISS (145.825 MHz APRS digipeater, sometimes FM crossband voice repeater)

Sample HT Memory Programming (SO-50 Example)

- 1 Downlink (receive): 436.795 MHz (adjust for Doppler ± 10 kHz)
- 2 Uplink (transmit): 145.850 MHz with 67.0 Hz CTCSS tone
- 3 Program several memories for RX: 436.805 / 436.800 / 436.795 / 436.790 / 436.785

Recommended Apps & Tools

- 1 AMSAT.org – satellite status, pass predictions
- 2 Heavens-Above.com – quick web-based pass predictions
- 3 ISS Detector (Android) / GoSatWatch (iOS) – mobile pass tracking
- 4 Gpredict (PC) – free satellite tracking software
- 5 SatPC32 (Windows) – advanced satellite tracking and radio control

Tips for Your First Contacts

- 1 Start by listening only until you are comfortable.
- 2 Use a handheld directional antenna (Arrow, Elk, or homebrew Yagi).
- 3 Record passes to help with logging later.
- 4 Operate outdoors with a clear view of the sky.
- 5 Be patient – passes are only 10–15 minutes long.

Compiled for club presentation. More info at AMSAT.org

Jim Lusk KC8EFD moved we close the meeting; Eric Bramini seconded; closed at 8:08pm.