

Minutes-FEBRUARY 20, 2025, General Meeting

By Jim Gifford N8KET, Secretary

Executive Committee Members Present

President: Geoff Kline, KI5VNB

Vice President: Eric Bramini, KC8OPY

Treasurer: John Westerkamp W8LRJ, Webmaster, Comm Center

Secretary: Jim Gifford N8KET

Senior Director: Bob French AC8ZU, POTA, Tech Night

Junior Director: Don Macon KE8WVJ

Functional Coordinators Present:

Glenn Rodgers WI8O, Field Day

Tink Siwecki KD8NUA, Hospitality and Library

Don Parker KB8PSL, Community

Steve Siwecki KD8NUC, Nominating

Paul Sharp WS8R, Education and Sunday Night Net

Ray Hitt N8VMX, Newsletter

Executive Committee Members Absent

NA

At 7:30 pm, President Geoff Kline, KI5VNB welcomed attendees and led attendees in the pledge of allegiance. Each person present introduced himself/herself.

General meeting minutes, as emailed

Questions/Comments/or motions: None

Glenn Rodgers WI8O moved we accept; Bob French AC8ZU seconded; passed.

Treasurer's report – John Westerkamp

John Westerkamp W8LRJ spoke about the following email he had transmitted earlier:

As is typical for this time of year, expenses outpaced income by about \$250.00 as dues trickle in more slowly and regular monthly expenses like Internet continue. We also picked up a pair of Morgan Bandpass filters for use during portable operation to avoid interference between bands when transmitting. Our balance as of the February Membership Meeting is \$12,336.04. We continue to be in excellent financial health.

One other note, all State and Federal taxes have been completed on-line for the 2024 tax year.

John Westerkamp, W8LRJ
Treasurer

Fund	31-Jan-25	Income	Expenses	28-Feb-25
General	\$4,995.78	\$45.00	\$301.93	\$4,738.85
Comm center	\$1,007.43	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,007.43

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Refreshments	\$906.34	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$906.34
Repeater	\$319.53	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$319.53
All Liquid Funds	\$7,229.08	\$45.00	\$301.93	\$6,972.15
6 Month CD	\$5,363.89	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,363.89
ALL FUNDS	\$12,592.97	\$45.00	\$301.93	\$12,336.04

Questions/Comments/or motions: None

Ray Hitt N8VMX moved we accept the report; Fred Stockwell KE8ZPN seconded; passed.

Network Resources Policy and Procedures

Russ Roysden N8NPT could not attend tonight's meeting to explain the policy. Geoff Kline stated he would email the procedures out to members for review and comment.

Staffing of Hamvention booth- Ray Hitt N8VMX

Ray Hitt described the Hamvention Flea Market setup and asked for volunteers to sign up.

Optional BARC Lanyards Show and Tell – Ray

Hitt said we now have lanyards to use for name tags; see Hitt after the meeting.

Skywarn training is scheduled for March 8th

Don Parker KB8PSL gave a presentation on the upcoming spotter training scheduled for March 8, 2025, 9am, at Miami Valley Hospital Women's Health Pavilion auditorium, 1 Wyoming Street, Dayton.

Location Update

Geoff Kline said that we have a potential new location, but too early to discuss as we need to await the final school board decision on the future of the current club house. Expect to have an update in the March or April meeting.

Updates from coordinators

Winter Field Day Results – Jon Westerkamp W8LRJ

Westerkamp presented results of a great WFD effort.

Field Day planning – Glenn Rodgers W18O

Glenn Rodgers said Field Day will be June 28-29, 2025. An initial meeting will be held a week from today, February 27, at 6pm. He asked all those willing to serve, or those wishing to learn more, attend this meeting.

Interest in Ham Radio Open House – Tom McClory KE8FWZ

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Tom McClory said this was a great opportunity to reach out to the Bellbrook/Sugarcreek School District. BARC is contacting the schools with an emphasis on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math).

Tech night reminder- Bob French AC8ZU

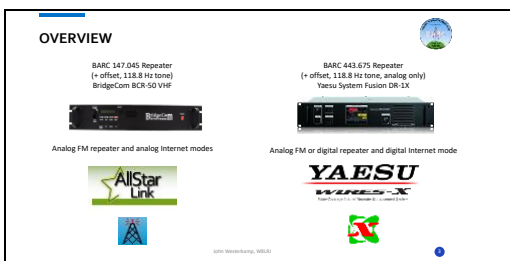
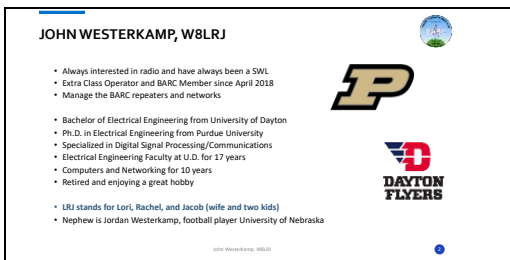
French said we have a Parks on the Air (POTA) meeting the first Tuesday of each month. The following Wednesday, February 26, will have a Tech Night about Nano VNA. On March 9, 2025, there will be a Tech Night to build a 10m to 20m half-wave antenna.

Movie Night- Tink Siwecki KD8NUA

Movie night will be a week from today, February 27 at 7pm. The movie is “Edge of Tomorrow” with Tom Cruise.

Presentation – John Westerkamp, Wires-X

John Westerkamp made an in-depth presentation on Wires-X:



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YAESU DIGITAL REPEATER TERMINOLOGY

- **System Fusion** is Yaesu's implementation of Digital Amateur Radio, utilizing C4FM 4-level FSK Technology to transmit digital voice and data over the amateur radio bands.
- **C4FM** (Continuous Four Level Frequency Modulation) is the *digital signaling mode* (4-level Frequency Shift Keying plus FDMA or Frequency Division Multiple Access).
- **AMS** (Automatic Mode Select) is a part of the System Fusion operating system which automatically detects whether a transmission is C4FM digital or analog FM.



John Wooten/K6JG, W6JG

FDMA VS. TDMA



John Wooten/K6JG, W6JG

WIRES-X (YAESU REPEATERS)

- **WIRES** (Wide-coverage Internet Repeater Enhancement System) is an *analog* system which expands the range of amateur radio communication by linking analog repeaters together over the Internet.
- **WIRES-X** (digital version with the **X**) is a *digital* system which expands the range of amateur radio communication by linking System Fusion repeaters together over the Internet.
- An amateur can communicate with other amateur stations all over the world using a Wires-X repeater within their radio range.
- *Requires extra hardware (HRI-200) at repeater.*



John Wooten/K6JG, W6JG

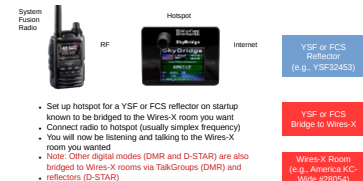
YSF AND FCS REFLECTORS (HOTSPOTS)

- **Wires-X** is Yaesu proprietary and is organized into **Rooms**.
- **YSF** (Yaesu System Fusion; but *not* Yaesu) and **FCS** (Fusion Connect System) are Open Source alternatives and are organized into **Reflectors**.
- Rooms and Reflectors are set up to allow groups of hams with similar interests to meet.
- FCS is centralized; YSF is distributed and run by individual hams.
- YSF and FCS reflectors are what you see on your hotspot.
- Use a System Fusion radio to talk to a hotspot connected to a reflector and meet other hams.
- *Neither YSF nor FCS can talk directly to Wires-X.*
- Hams have built bridges from YSF/FCS reflectors to Wires-X rooms.



John Wooten/K6JG, W6JG

BRIDGING WIRES-X



- Set up hotspot for a YSF or FCS reflector on startup known to be bridged to the Wires-X room you want.
- Connect radio to hotspot (usually simplex frequency).
- You will now be listening and talking to the Wires-X room you wanted.
- Note: Other digital modes (DMR and D-STAR) are also bridged to Wires-X rooms via TalkGroups (DMR) and reflectors (D-STAR).

John Wooten/K6JG, W6JG

WIRES-X REPEATER AT BARC

The WIREX-X Repeater is a repeater that is in a location where access to the internet is available. The WIREX-X interface, HRI-200 and a dedicated PC can be directly connected to the DR-1 repeater. The PC via the HRI-200 now becomes the controller for the DR-1 repeater.

442.270 (13.8 kHz)
FM or Digital C4FM



John Wooten/K6JG, W6JG

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443.675+ (118.8 Hz tone)
FM or Digital C4FM



AUX connector for HIRI-200

John W. Schuchman, W8DGN

USING WIRES-X (SEE BARC WEBSITE)

- BARC 443.675+ 118.8 Hz tone (analog only), repeater
W8DGN-ND Wires-X Node ID: 70262
W8DGN-BARC Room ID: 80262
- To use Wires-X on the W8DGN repeater, simply listen to be sure the repeater is not in use, then identify your station and state that you are connecting to Wires-X.
- You must have a Yaesu radio that supports System Fusion. Every radio has a different method for connecting to Wires-X, but generally there is a DX or X button that connects you to Wires-X and allows you to get a list of nodes to which you can connect. See the radio manual for details.
- *Be sure to disconnect from the room when you are finished.*
- *Note: To avoid hearing the digital noise on your analog FM receiver, add a receive tone 118.8 Hz (Tone Squelch).*
- <https://www.yaesu.com/jp/en/wires-x/user/index.php>

John W. Schuchman, W8DGN

POPULAR WIRES-X ROOMS

- AmericaLink Room #21080
- America-KC-Wide Room #28054 (see February Newsletter article)
- CQ America Room #21000
- OhioLink Room #40557 (net Sunday nights at 8:30 pm ET, see <https://www.ohradio.digital/> for more info)
- QuadNet Array #83453 (see <https://www.openquad.net/> for net info)
- Demonstration

John W. Schuchman, W8DGN

YAESU FT3D

- Program repeater info
- Set channel to repeater
- ID and announce Wires-X
- Press X (YMMV)
- Check manual for items below before using!

- 1) Press X button to connect to Wires-X
- 2) Press and hold X button to disconnect from Wires-X



Yaesu FT-700R
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tTdjGCK380>

- 3) Press and hold BAND button to disconnect from Room

John W. Schuchman, W8DGN

YSF TO WIRES-X BRIDGE (ATTEMPT)



John W. Schuchman, W8DGN

WIRES-X ACTIVE ROOMS LIST

https://www.yaesu.com/jp/en/wires-x/ld/ld_active.php

Room ID	Room Name	Room Type	Room Status	Room Description
21080	AmericaLink	Room	Active	AmericaLink Room #21080
28054	America-KC-Wide	Room	Active	America-KC-Wide Room #28054
21000	CQ America	Room	Active	CQ America Room #21000
40557	OhioLink	Room	Active	OhioLink Room #40557
83453	QuadNet Array	Room	Active	QuadNet Array #83453

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Reminders:

Geoff Kline reminded members of the BARC Net each Sunday night at 8pm. He also said that the March meeting would be a dinner meeting and the location will be communicated before the date.

Larry Darner KD8RER moved we close the meeting; Ray Hitt seconded. Closed at about 9:01pm.