

Minutes-March 16, 2023, General Meeting

By Jim Gifford KD8APT, Secretary

Executive Committee Members Present

President: Ray Hitt N8VMX, Newsletter, Field Day

Vice President: Glenn Rodgers KE8LZD, Greeter, Shack Tours

Treasurer: John Westerkamp W8LRJ, Communications Center

Secretary: Jim Gifford KD8APT

Sr. Director: Don Parker KB8PSL (on Zoom)

Jr. Director: Jim Lusk KC8EFD, Clubhouse

Functional Coordinators Present:

Jim Totten WA8HUB, BARC Lunch Bunch

Tom McClory KE8FWZ, Youth (on Zoom)

Paul Sharp WS8R, Education

Executive Committee Members Absent

N/A

At 7:30pm, President Ray Hitt N8VMX led attendees in the pledge of allegiance. After the pledge, President Hitt called for a moment of silence for Ron Cramer KD8ENJ, SK.

Hitt then introduced the evening's guest speaker, Bob Baker N8ADO.

Agenda Item 1. Program: "Are You Prepared to Save the World Using Ham Radio"?

Bob Baker presented an interesting topic about volunteering and helping our community using ham, radio.

Are You Prepared to Save the World Using Ham Radio? (Using Public Service Events to Develop Emergency Communications Skills)

Bob Baker N8ADO
n8ado@arrl.net

Public Service/Public Safety

- Only FIRST RESPONDERS welcome
- CERT's essential role and their role more detail, see next page
- We can be called to support Public Safety in their role and how
- Response is activated fairly frequently, but does not reach logistics and disaster support
- We can practice for emergency by volunteering for activities in Public Service.

Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT)

- Created by FEMA
- Sponsored by a local government agency (Beverly Hills Fire in Greene County)
- Training includes Fire Safety, Light Search and Rescue, Team Organization, Disaster Medical
- Self-Deploy to immediate disaster area
- Ham Radio is useful, but is not integrated

The National Communications Commission, when creating the Amateur Radio Emergency Service, had clear in its intent that Amateur Radio Operators must be involved in communication emergencies. One large series of radio-related programs that we created, emergency response, that we call ERS, is a multi-county, multi-state, multi-organization effort to provide communication skills and education to those interested in amateur radio. The Amateur Radio Emergency Service is a multi-county, multi-state, multi-organization effort to provide communication skills and education to those interested in amateur radio. The Amateur Radio Emergency Service is a multi-county, multi-state, multi-organization effort to provide communication skills and education to those interested in amateur radio. The Amateur Radio Emergency Service is a multi-county, multi-state, multi-organization effort to provide communication skills and education to those interested in amateur radio.

Ham Radio Emergency Response

- Most responses will be coordinated through the Amateur Radio Emergency Service
- Support Agreements exist between GCARES and BARC, UARC, XWARN
- GCARES has not been very active lately but the new EC is eager to reboot the organization. In-person meetings will resume, soon.

ARES

- Part of ARRL, you do not need to be a member to participate. License is Required
- Training is largely based on FEMA courses (On-line and FREE)
- Drills are conducted as practice/instruction
- Weekly training nets
- In-person meetings

Skywarn

- Sponsored by the National Weather Service
- Spotter Training is free and recommended
- Ham radio reports are particularly valued by NWS
- Greene County Nets are held on the 147.165 repeater (+ offset, 123.0 CTCSS tone)

Statewide Tomado Drill

- Wednesday, March 22, 9:50 AM
- Greene County Net on 147.165 repeater
- Please join!

Public Service

- Events (planned) are a practical way to prepare for incidents (which just happen)
- Participation in radio support of events gives experience in the use of proper radio protocol, teaches how to participate in a directed net, builds confidence, and teaches us how to remain calm and to stay focused on the problem at hand.

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Why YOU should consider PSEs

- Practice for Emergencies
- An opportunity to give service to your community
- It demonstrates the value of amateur radio to your fellow citizens
- It's a way to join in an adventure and have fun playing with our special toys

How Does an Event Get Hooked Up With Ham Radio?

- Mostly, they continue from previous years
- Sometimes, the organizer knows someone who is involved with ham events and gets a name
- Sometimes they contact an organization (Points of Contact)
- Examples: Summerfest-GCARES, Tour de Gem-DARA, Pan Ohio Hope Ride-DARA

Air Force Marathon

- For practice of Emergency Communications, this event has it all. Logistics, Security, Medical, Asset Tracking, Progress Reports, Problems that must be solved...
- The nets are fairly busy and teach patience and how to prioritize traffic.

2022 Events

- April:
- Xenia Marathon
- Autism 5k
- May:
- Flying Pig Marathon

Are Events Tied to a Particular Club?

- Bellbrook Parade – BARC
- Fairborn Sweet Corn Festival—UVARC
- Turkey Trot – MARA
- I choose to run events as "Ham Radio Events", but the presence of the DARA Truck or the XVARN Trailer might create the impression of a club affiliation

Air Force Marathon

- The bare minimum to support all of the assignments that are required to complete our mission is a 49 ham operators. Last year we had 81. I was proud that "ham radio" was the only group to fully staff their operation. However, it would have been comforting to have a few more.
- We are required to have training for the volunteers. Following this slide, we will look at the assignment chart and then take a look at the training presentation.

2022 Events

- June
- Summerfest
- Field Day
- July:
- Summerfest
- Queen City Triathlon
- Pan Ohio Hoops Ride

Typical Process to Create a New Event

- ## Event
- Organize in-person contact with a POC
 - Event info: who, what, when, time and location, scope (geographic and number of participants), services rendered (provide a poster/news (photos of event staff, etc.), HPRPA protocols?
 - I do not turn down any good request, but I will not go in to support commercial activity or where there are only going to be additional people there one reason for me to go is that there is a POC that I know. We have not been able to support simultaneous events in recent years.
 - Some negotiation usually takes place with regards to how many volunteers are needed and what extra costs we can support.
 - Sometimes the organizers have more experience than we do, so we can provide some guidance regarding the conduct of the event. The organizers' system recognizes the need to reach that end of a scale, but we recognize how important that can be.

2022 Events

- August:
- Summerfest
- Abi Khan Horse Challenge
- September:
- Holiday at Home Sk and Parade
- Young's Charity Bike Ride
- Air Force Marathon

Coordination

- Publish the most and weak volunteers
- Cluster geographic sites (usually more "regional" and the sparse where coverage is desired...)
- For a large event, include: expected progress (first number expected, last number due, etc.)
- List assignments (support, shadow, main)
- Develop Communications Plan
- Draft more volunteers
- Adjust assignments as resources demand
- Send info to volunteers
- Execute
- Thank the volunteers, Request after action reports, Google, The logs.
- Send summary report to organizers.

2022 Events

- October:
- Tour de Gem bike ride
- SW District Cross Country
- November:
- Mid East Cross Country Challenge
- Turkey Trot 5 Mile Race

Air Force Marathon

- Partly due to security issues, the AFM is solely under the jurisdiction of the Air Force.
- My title is Volunteer Lead for Amateur Radio, but technically, I am an employee of the Air Force while doing my "duty", and the pay is zero.
- Most of the race is on the base, so all volunteers must register and pass a security check. You must be on the EAL to get on the base on marathon day even if you work on the base and have a pass.

He then explained how hams are trained for the USAF Marathon:

[illegible]

Agenda Item 2. Minutes

Jim Gifford KD8APT, Secretary, said that February minutes contained an error, as delivered to members. He said that Don Parker was listed as Junior Director and Jim Lusk as Senior Director, which is exactly opposite of their positions. He said it has been corrected.

Jim Totten WA8HUB moved we accept; Glenn Rodgers KE9LZD seconded; passed.

Agenda Item 3. Treasurer's Report

John Westerkamp said that dues intake is now over and there was not much additional income in February. He said that expenses included our annual Zoom payment plus the monthly internet bill. Westerkamp said that the inside Communications Center work is about completed and work will commence soon, weather depending, on the roof. He will bring proposed budget expenses to the next Planning meeting to decide on action on the antenna on the roof. Following is the treasurer's report as emailed just before the meeting:

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"Income for March was \$63.00 all from dues. Expenses of \$317.98 were due to Spectrum Internet, a new vacuum cleaner, nametags, and final updates to the Communications Center. Our balance as of March 16, 2023, is \$8333.69.

Next up is the final cleanout of the storage room in preparation for Hamvention where we will sell all surplus equipment in the Flea Market. As the weather gets warmer, we also plan to move outdoors and install the R9 antenna and update the grounding and bonding as well as the antenna system. I will have a proposal for that next month."

Thanks!

John Westerkamp, W8LRJ
Treasurer

Fund	28-Feb-23	Income	Expenses	31-Mar-23
General	\$5,258.64	\$63.00	\$225.17	\$5,096.47
Comm center	\$2,247.91	\$0.00	\$92.79	\$2,155.12
Refreshments	\$688.98	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$688.98
Repeater	\$393.12	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$393.12
ALL FUNDS	\$8,588.65	\$63.00	\$317.96	\$8,333.69

Agenda Item 4. Education Report from Paul Sharp

Paul Sharp WS8R said that on the Sunday night BARC nets he has been asking for input on educational needs from members. From the responses on the net and from discussion in meetings, he has formulated a list of educational topics, which he presented and discussed at the Planning meeting. Paul's list is below (Secretary note: it was not possible, technically, to show this on the screen at the meeting, but Sharp listed many of these areas of interest.)

Education topics for BARC for 2023, Final Draft

Topics for Monthly meeting:

Public Service. Guest speaker.

Parks on the Air. Paul Sharp

DMR for the beginner and experienced user. Planned for Nov.

FT8 for the beginner and experienced user.

Solar systems. Ray Hitt and others.

Grounding and bonding. Paul Sharp, and others,

Field Day planning. (Perhaps combine this with another topic).

Field Day results. (Perhaps combine this with another topic).

Hands on:

How to fasten connectors to coax.

Digital modes. Google Translator, DX

Antennas for restricted housing.

How to construct antennas and where to purchase the material. How to test these antennas.

How to select the appropriate coax.

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How to use antenna analyzers.

Operating Afternoon and Contesting:

A hands on review of how to operate the ICOM 7300 and patch panels, radio etiquette.

Contesting 101. Rookie Roundup

DX expeditions, how to find them, and how to work them, split, radio etiquette.

Not covered.

How to tie knots.

For 2024:

CW

Paul Sharp then yielded the floor to John Westerkamp where he displayed the following proposed calendar to attendees and explained how it would work.

	03/03/23
Proposal for 2023 Education Calendar	
March – Public Service/EmComm and VHF/UHF Operation	
1. Operating Afternoon: Build 10m antennas (one-off) and where to purchase materials	
2. Hands-On: Build antenna and wind toroid (1:1 choke and 9:1 unun)	
3. Program: Bob Baker, N8ADO, Membership Program on Public Service	
4. Event: Xenia Marathon (April)	
5. Event: Sugar Maple Festival Parade (April)	
April – Intro to IC-7300 and HF Operation	
1. Operating Afternoon: Going over clubhouse, antennas, and IC-7300's	
2. Hands-On: Logging and DX Code of Conduct	
3. Program: Setting up various loggers and connecting to IC-7300	
4. Event: ARRL Rookie Roundup	
May – Antennas	
1. Operating Afternoon:	
2. Hands-On: Rooftop field trip to see antennas and selecting coax	
3. Program:	
4. Event: Hamvention	
June – Antennas	
1. Operating Afternoon: Refresher on IC-7300 radios and HF	
2. Hands-On: Coax connectors and using antenna analyzers	
3. Program: Grounding and bonding (plus Field Day program)	
4. Event: Field Day	
July – Digital Data Modes	
1. Operating Afternoon: Run FT-8 and Fldigi	
2. Hands-On: Rig control, logging, and Google translator	
3. Program: Running FT-8 and Fldigi on IC-7300 (Field Day results)	
August – Off-Grid Operation (POTA, SOTA, EmComm)	
1. Operating Afternoon: POTA	
2. Hands-On: POTA spotting and logging	
3. Program: Solar systems	
4. Event: NAQP SSB and Ohio QSO Party	
5. Event: Fall Field Day (Ohio State Parks on the Air in September)	
September – Contesting	
1. Operating Afternoon: Fall Field Day	
2. Hands-On: Setup a contest log	
3. Program: Contesting 101, Setup, Logging, and Tips	
October – Chili Cookoff	
November – Digital Voice Modes	
1. Operating Afternoon: DMR operation	
2. Hands-On:	
3. Program: DMR Intro	

	03/03/23
December – DXpeditions	
1. Operating Afternoon: Work a DXpedition	
2. Hands-On:	
3. Program: DXpedition etiquette, tips, and tricks	

Vince Parisi WB2JDJ asked about Operating Afternoons inquiring whether these meetings would be on a set day of the week or whether they intended to alter the schedule. Westerkamp explained that it would alternate depending on the topical activity and also depending on calendar-related events, such as contests.

Glenn Rodgers suggested that the calendar be published in *Full Quieting*.

Ray Hitt asked members to watch for the printed calendar and if a member is an expert in a particular topic, please write a newsletter article coinciding with that monthly topic.

Agenda Item 5. Coordinators' Reports

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Paul Sharp stood in for Steve and Tink Siwecki tonight, as they were tied up in another meeting. He announced the upcoming movie night. (Secretary's note: Since the membership meeting announcement, Movie Night was rescheduled from Thursday March 23rd to Thursday March 30th)

Ray Hitt stood in for Don Parker (recovering from a health issue). He announced the upcoming Sugar Maple Parade, Saturday April 22. Meet at the Community Church at 9:30am; parade will start at 10:30am.

Darryl Fowler KD8JQE said that organizers announced a canoe race on the Little Miami River June 10. They requested ham radio operators assistance. Please let Ray Hitt know if interested.

The meeting ended at about 8:56pm after a motion by John Westerkamp and second by Jim Totten.