

Full Quieting

The Official Journal of The Bellbrook Amateur Radio Club



May 2026 — Issue 57

In This Issue

From the Editor	1
Full Quieting Masthead	2
Member Interview Questions	2
President's Corner	3
BARC at Dayton Hamvention Info Sheet	4
What's Up BARC?	5
Recap on BARC's April POTA Experience	5
BARC's May POTA Experience	6
April Tech Night	7
BARC Sugar Maple Festival Parade Support	9
1130 DMR Net Stats for 2026	13
BARC Swag Information	14
Officer, Director, and Coordinator Inputs	15
BARC Event Calendar	16
BARC Movie and Dessert Night	17
Lunch Bunch Plans for the Month	18
Lunch Bunch Calendar	19
Bellbrook Amateur Radio Club Open House	20
A POTA Adventure At Kiser Lake	23
May HamClock Update	26
What is AI and What can I do with it?	31
Special Event Stations for the Month	37
Amateur License Test Questions	39
Editorial Policy and Style Guidelines	42
Miscellaneous BARC Information	44

From the Editor

Holy Moley, it's May already! Time for the Hamvention! I hope you all can make it, even if only to people-watch. I plan on spending a lot of time at our Flea Market Spot. Make sure you visit us at spots **7662-7663**. Refer to [Page 4 to find our booth!](#) Look for the [cyan BARC canopy](#). Good place to get out of the sun (or rain!) We'll have camping chairs and ice cold water. Tip: pack a change of socks in your backpack, your feet will feel wonderful mid-afternoon when you change them. You'll thank me later.

This is a full Newsletter, don't be intimidated, there are a lot of pictures. April was very busy; POTA, Open House, Tech Night, the Sugar Maple Festival just to name a few.

I give a HamClock status update. *The time for procrastination is over.* Your HamClock will not work properly sometime in June, some say June 1st, I think June 30th. At any rate, you need to adjust your HamClock program to communicate with the replacement backend servers that are already up and running. Get it tested before June. I can help you if needed. Or just read the article here and the past two back issues to get caught up.

Along with the Hamvention, practically as soon as you read this, we will be at our next BARC POTA Experience. To keep it simple, we're basing out of the **Waynesville McDonalds at 0730 on May 2nd**. Join us and get hooked on POTA like so many others already have.

There are a couple of instances of artificial intelligence (AI) in this Newsletter. I routinely use Grok to bounce questions off of. Bill, AJ8B used ChatGPT in his article. I see a lot of similarities between them. Bill has some good points to properly use AI. I have found it to be a bit time saver when doing anything technical, mainly because technology relies on fact and not opinion so there is less a chance of any personal bias to skew the results. Math is math, right? Anyway, be careful using AI because I have been presented by information I know to be wrong, and the AI will just brush it off when called out. It keeps you on your toes. Times, they are a-changin'.

73, Ray Hitt, N8VMX
Full Quieting Editor



2026 BARC Officers and Directors

President: Geoff Kline, [KI5VNB](#)

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

Secretary: Jim Gifford, [N8KET](#)

Treasurer: Thomas McClory [KE8FWZ](#)

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

Junior Director: Glenn Rodgers, [WI8O](#)

2026 Coordinators

Antennas: Ray Hitt, [N8VMX](#)

Clubhouse: Jim Lusk, [KC8EFD](#)

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

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

Contesting: Ken Gunton, [W8ASA](#)

Education: Bob French, [AC8ZU](#)

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

Field Day: Eric Bramini, [KC8OPY](#)

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

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

IT: John Westerkamp, [W8LRJ](#)

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

Membership: Jeff Pursel, [KJ6XC](#)

Net: Paul Sharp, [WS8R](#)

QSLs: vacant

Repeater: Russ Roysden, [N8NPT](#)

Tech Night: Bob French [AC8ZU](#)

Webmaster: Doug Hayward [K8DRH](#)

BARC Net: Every Sunday, 8 PM Local

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

Directions to BARC Clubhouse and Radio Room

St. Pierre Education Center

3757 Upper Bellbrook Rd

Bellbrook, OH 45305

[Map Link](#)

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

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

Member Interviews

BARC wants to hear from you!

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

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

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

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

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



President's Corner

May is one of the most exciting months of the year in amateur radio and really feels like the start of operating season. With warmer weather and longer days, it's a great time to get back on the air. Of course, May also means Dayton Hamvention, which draws hams from all over. We will once again have a spot in the flea market this year, so if you are attending, be sure to stop by and visit. We are also looking for a few volunteers to help man the table so everyone has a chance to get away and do some shopping. If you have equipment you would like to sell, please drop it off at the clubhouse no later than the evening of Tuesday, May 12, 2026. Be sure to attach a note listing the item, your asking price, the minimum you will accept, along with your name, callsign, and phone number.

For those who enjoy portable operating but prefer something less structured than Parks on the Air, you may want to check out Out On The Air (OTA) at <http://outontheair.com/>. OTA encourages you to simply take your radio wherever you want (out of the shack) and operate, without worrying about park designations, quotas, or logging requirements. It's a relaxed way to enjoy portable radio and might be a good fit if you like the idea of POTA but want more flexibility.

With all of this going on, May is also a good time to set a simple goal to get on the air. Even something as basic as making ten contacts during the month can help get you back into the rhythm, whether from home or a portable setup.

As we look ahead this year, we would also like to plan another club outing and cookout. Ideally, we would find a location that qualifies as a Parks on the Air site, but that is not required. The goal is to find a good spot that encourages participation and gives us a chance to operate and socialize. If you have ideas for locations, please let us know.

As always, if you have projects, operating experiences, or interesting finds to share, we would enjoy including them in a future newsletter. With Hamvention ahead and the season getting underway, there should be plenty to talk about.

P.S. On a personal note, if you are planning to attend Contest University this year, please let me know. We already have a couple of members going, and it would be great to know who else will be there.

Geoff Kline, [K15VNB](#)

President, Bellbrook Amateur Radio Club





When Is The Show?

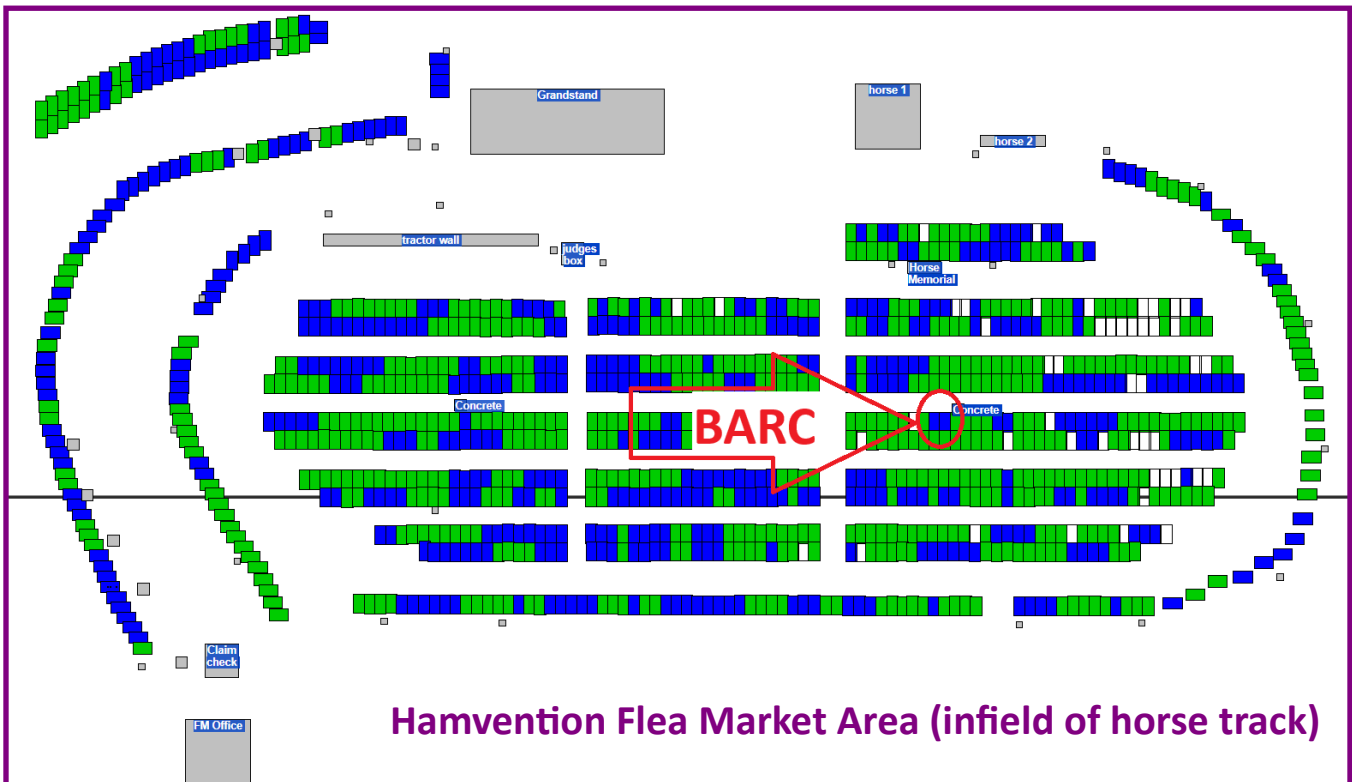
Friday May 15th, 2026 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
 Saturday May 16th, 2026 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
 Sunday May 17th, 2026 9:00 AM—1:00 PM

Where Is The Show

Greene County Fair and Expo Center
[210 Fairground Road, Xenia 45385](https://www.greencountyfair.com/210-Fairground-Road-Xenia-45385)

BARC Hamvention Flea Market Booth: spots 7662 and 7663

Stop by to visit, have a rest, and cool off! If you have some spare time to take the booth for a few minutes to allow Ray N8VMX and Geoff KI5VNB to take part in other Hamvention activities, that would be greatly appreciated.



What's Up BARC?

What's Up BARC?

Ray Hitt, [N8VMX](#)

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



Recap on BARC's April POTA Experience

On Saturday afternoon, April 12th, several BARC members went out on a POTA adventure. We went to 4 parks in Greene County, the [Great Council State Park](#) (US-11673) near Xenia, the [Charles Young Buffalo Soldiers National Monument](#) (US-0916) near Wilberforce, [John Bryan State Park](#) (US-1964) north of Yellow Springs, and [Clifton Gorge State Nature Preserve](#) (US-7848) which is adjacent to John Bryan State Park. The event started at the McDonald's on US-68 in Xenia, then people dispersed to the 4 parks to operate. I've included a few snippets of BARC member's experiences here **{Editor}**

Ray Hitt — N8VMX: I started out a bit late, I was expecting a plumber who ended up cancelling out (actually he didn't, but that's a really long story for another time). So, I had to skip the McDonalds meet up but instead drove straight to **Charles Young Buffalo Soldiers National Monument**. I was there from around 1130 until 1230. Al KB8PJW and his grandson were already there trying their luck on 10m, but the conditions that time of day weren't favorable. I was working FT-8 on 30m before it dried up and I moved to 40m that was actually still viable. I made 3 contacts on 30m and 8 contacts on 40m then pulled up stakes and went to my 2nd site.

My second site was the **Great Council State Park** on US-68 north of the Xenia city center. It's a new park and I had never been there. It's a building meant to represent the tribal great meeting place. Another POTA treasure is that it had a true indoor bathroom (if you go POTA, you understand). I was there from around 1pm to 1:45. I switched to 20m which was crowded, but since I was calling POTA on FT-8 I got answered quickly. I made 11 contacts and then pulled up stakes and went to my 3rd site.



My third site was **John Bryan State Park**, and I located at the [Wingo Picnic Area](#) near the Mountain Bike Trail parking area. I set up on 17m and made two contacts on FT-8 but it was pretty unpopulated so I moved to 15m and made 11 contacts. I was there from around 2pm to 3:15pm. During my time there, I got a call from my wife that the plumber turned up after all, but had a mishap and some plumbing blew out on him drenching him and part of the basement. I decided to pack it up and head for home to survey the damage, and process all the WSJT-X log files to submit to POTA and N3FJP. This was the first time I worked three parks in one day.

(Continued on next page)



What's Up BARC? (continued)

BARC's April POTA Experience (continued)

Al Tokarsky — KB8PJW: This adventure was not as good as New Years Day. The grandson can only work 10M and at noon that was DOA. We did hear a Chile station but could not connect with them. So it was a bust, but we still had fun setting up the new antenna and at least making 1 contact with Jim which told us it was working. Now all we need is for the bands to cooperate. Hopefully the next one will be better.

Jim Gifford — N8KET: In our planning we thought that starting later in the day, this month at 11am, would encourage some BARC members to join in the fun. In hindsight (and this is just my opinion) it was not the best time to start an activation. I prefer earlier in the day.

After meeting at McDonalds with Glenn, Al, Flynn, John, Geoff, Doug, and I (Ray was meeting us later), Doug Hayward and I traveled to John Bryan State Park. Glenn Rodgers had set up at the head of the bike trails, (and Geoff was setting up in the park near the picnic area), so we ended up in the valley near the river. We had a great time and activated on 40m after throwing a line up in a tree. Propagation on HF gives us a good chance of making QSOs, since our radiation is not line of sight but bounces off the Ionosphere. I did a search on 10m and was able to work Al and Flynn on 10m via ground wave. They had set up at US-0916 Charles Young Buffalo Soldiers National Monument.

NOTICE: BARC's May POTA Experience (Jim Gifford N8KET)

Glenn and I are planning on having a POTA adventure later this summer a little farther than the Dayton area, perhaps Lake Loramie, Grand Lake St Marys, Kiser Lake, Buck Creek State Park, etc. But for May, a very busy month for many of us with Hamvention, we are sticking closer to home. Let's meet at the Waynesville McDonalds at 7:30am on May 2, 2026, and head out to various parks in that area. With Spring Valley Wildlife, The Little Miami State Park, Caesar Creek Lake, Caesar Creek Wildlife Area, we can spread out and enjoy a beautiful Ohio Spring. As always let Glenn Rodgers and I know if you plan to attend and especially if you just want to tag along with someone else and learn. That way we can plan equipment accordingly.

Meet at McDonalds
355 S. Main Street, Waynesville
7:30 am, May 2

Plan on heading out from there

After a hearty breakfast, or just coffee, we will divide up into groups and head to:

- Caesar Creek State Park (state park – US-1940; wildlife area US-7850)
- Spring Valley Wildlife Area (US-7849)
- Caesar Creek State Nature Preserve (US-7847)
- Little Miami River Scenic Trail (US-1972)



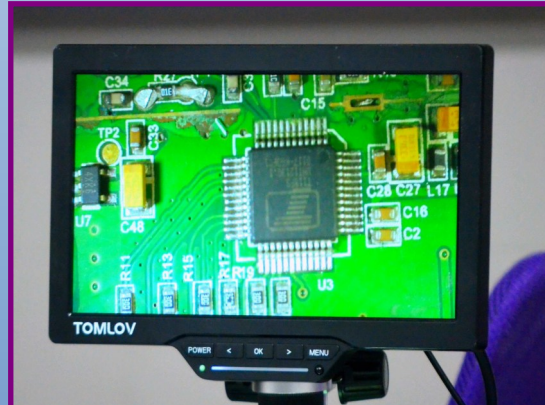
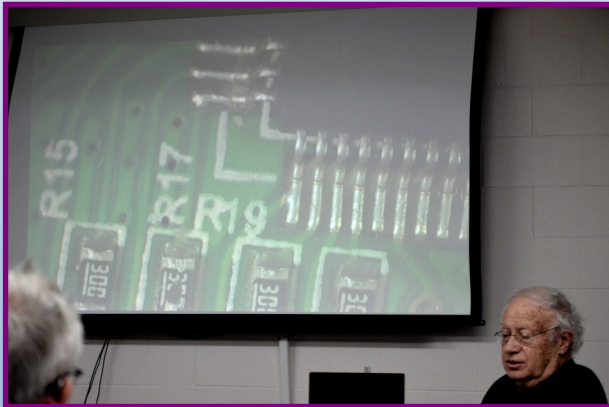
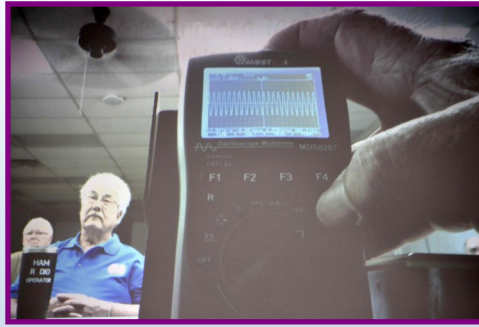
What's Up BARC? (continued)

April Tech Night—Tuesday April 21st Tim, N8NQH gave a tech night presentation on inexpensive multi-purpose test equipment. Some of these items you have all seen, I'll bet only a few of you are familiar with all of these items: digital microscope; digital multimeter with built-in oscilloscope; AC outlet tester that also tests GCFI - ACFI, and voltage under load; clamp-on amp meter that also checks voltage and CPS; and THD Network tester that checks cables, traces cables, tests for POE, and tests fiber optic cables.



What's Up BARC? (continued)

April Tech Night—Tuesday April 21st



What's Up BARC? (continued)

BARC Sugar Maple Festival Parade Support

BARC provided support for the Bellbrook Sugar Maple Festival Parade on Saturday, April 25th. It turned out to be one of the more beautiful April days the Festival has ever seen (us parade veterans have seen all sorts of weather in Bellbrook in April). This was a record-breaking length of parade both in terms of the number and size of entries and the time to perform. Tail End Charlie, N8VMX was farther back checking in parade entries than ever before. Enjoy the pictures, and maybe you can join us next time! Let me know what you think of the Tail End Charlie dash cam!



What's Up BARC? (continued)

BARC Sugar Maple Festival Parade Support (continued)



What's Up BARC? (continued)

BARC Sugar Maple Festival Parade Support (continued)



What's Up BARC? (continued)

BARC Sugar Maple Festival Parade Support (continued)



Can you find Bigfoot in this Dash Cam still frame?



Reviewing Stand

Welcome New BARC Members

Keith Enix, **KE8IFL** , Technician

Brad Bernard, **N8JWR**, Extra

Isaac Bernard, **W8WMQ**, Technician



What's Up BARC? (continued)

1130 DMR Net—Statistics for 2026

The **1130 DMR Net** meets Monday through Friday at 11:30am EDT on the DMR talk group **310557**. This is Tim, N8NQH's East repeater talk group. Details to connect to it are on the last page of every Newsletter.

I started recording statistics since Jan 5, 2026, and here are the results for January through April.

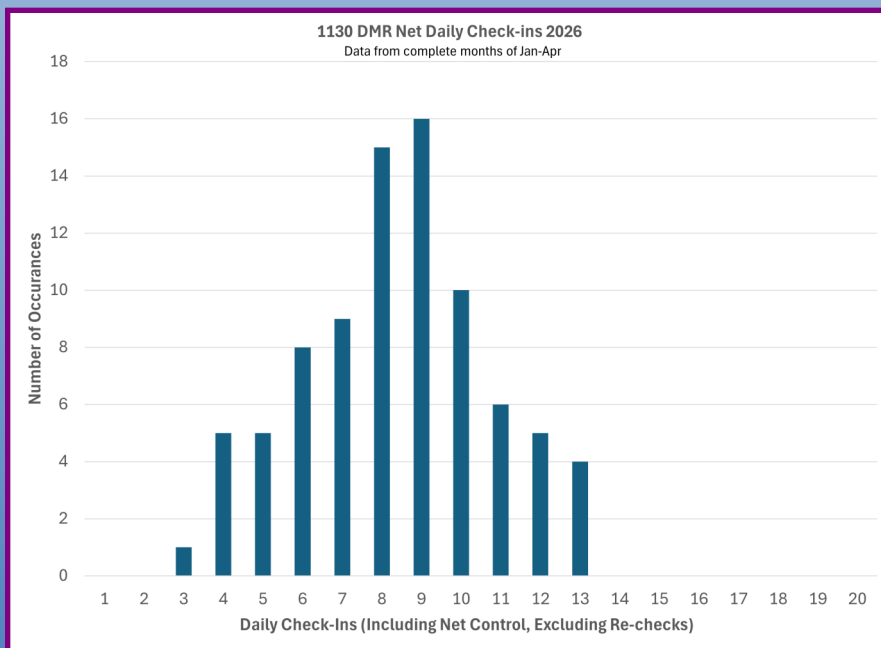
Since January, we've had **701** check-ins. The average number of check-ins per day has risen every month from **6.35** check-ins per day in January to **9.32** in April. The month to month percentage growth from the previous month is shown in the chart. The number of check-ins have increased every month in 2026 so far. The number of daily check-ins has ranged from **3-13**. For you math addicts, I included a histogram of daily check-ins below. The net is starting to attract folks from around the country as well as the UK and Canada.

	Check-ins	Average Daily Check-ins	% Increase
Jan-2026	127	6.35	0.00%
Feb-2026	169	8.45	33.07%
Mar-2026	200	9.09	18.34%
Apr-2026	205	9.32	2.50%
Total	701	---	---

We're up to a list of 41 people who have checked in from Jan-Apr at least once, increasing from 33 last month. Word of mouth is spreading across the DMR and DSTAR nets, so hopefully this net will continue to grow in popularity. It's nice to make new friends around the country and the world!

Net Control Stations are: Ray N8VMX (Monday), Kevin KF8BHL (Tuesday), Jim WA8HUB (Wednesday), Brian AA4BK (Thursday), and Ian M6PBY (Friday).

If any of you need help programming your DMR radio to get on the net, please contact Ray [N8VMX](#), we can meet at the clubhouse and set you up.



What's Up BARC? (continued)

BARC Swag from Emerio KE8JNQ

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



BARC Swag from Parrot Promo Essentials

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

BARC Mugs from Chris Hanselman, AD8OM

For those of you wanting 20 oz insulated BARC mugs, please contact Chris Hanselman, AD8OM, at deeremt@gmail.com. They are offered in Blue with silver print and Black with copper print. Look for some new designs to be unveiled soon to add to your collection!



Officer, Director, and Coordinator Inputs

Secretary: Jim Gifford, [N8KET](#): The secretary wrote notes for the planning meeting and minutes for the general meeting. He also coordinated a POTA Adventure the second Saturday of April, and at the time of this writing is planning on working the Sugar Maple parade.

Treasurer: Tom McClory, [KE8FWZ](#): First a correction on last month's report. While the club station emergency lighting work was completed in March, the payment was not processed until April. The corrected club expenses for March was \$343, adjusted from the reported \$1,104. For April, expenses were the annual renewal for the ARRL Club Liability Insurance (\$200), recurring monthly Spectrum/Internet service (\$171), plus the above mentioned electrical work (\$761), for a total of \$1,132. April income was \$21 from the refreshment jar.

Repeater: John Westerkamp, [W8LRJ](#): Work continues to clean out the repeater site and organize connections and cables. The repeater equipment and router required a reboot recently. If the router is hung, I cannot work from home so have to visit the repeater site to reboot equipment. Since the reboots, everything has been working well. At the next Membership Meeting, we will poll the membership about a repeater site tour.

Communication Center: John Westerkamp, [W8LRJ](#): Progress is still being made in the radio room! I am continuing to add and upgrade amateur radio software packages including WSJT-X, Winlink, and VARA, among others. As the weather clears, we look forward to putting up the new hexbeam and TV antennas and doing some yearly maintenance on the existing antenna systems. We now have an IP phone connected to the Miami Valley Microwave Network and plan on upgrading our dish antenna and adding an outdoor weather camera. For safety, we have completed installation of Emergency Exit signs in the radio room and the hallway leading to the gym.

Membership: Jeff Persel, [KJ6XC](#): We had 3 new members join and 1 late renewal bringing our current total to 157. Distributed the 2026 Membership Directory (as of 3/31) via the email reflector.

Antennas: Ray Hitt, [N8VMX](#): No activity in April. I will be having a planning meeting in May to assemble the team and go over the procedures to install the hexbeam antenna and other antennas such as television and others that have not been discussed. Time permitting, we will install these antennas in May.



BARC May 2026 Event Calendar

Sat May 2, 2026

7:30am May BARC POTA Experience Where: [McDonalds](#)
355 S. Main Street, Waynesville

Sun May 3, 2026

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

Tue May 5, 2026

6:30pm POTA SIG Where: BARC Clubhouse

Thu May 7, 2026

7pm Planning Meeting Where: BARC Clubhouse

Sun May 10, 2026

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

Tue May 12, 2026

11:15am Lunch Bunch..... Where: China Garden Buffet

Fri-Sun May 15-17, 2026

Dayton Hamvention Where: [Greene County Fairgrounds](#)

Sun May 17, 2026

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

Tue May 19, 2026

6:30pm Tech Night Where: BARC Clubhouse

Thu May 21, 2026

7pm Membership Meeting Where: BARC Clubhouse

Sun May 24, 2026

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

Tue May 26, 2026

11:15am Lunch Bunch..... Where: First Watch

Thu May 28, 2026

7pm Dessert & Movie Night..... Where: BARC Clubhouse

Sun May 31, 2026

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



BARC Movie and Dessert Night

May 28th 2026!

In April we watched “Rental Family”. It was a fun feel good film and since it was based in Japan we had Japanese themed desserts! Next up for May we will be watching “Alita Battle Angel” an action packed futuristic type film. Something different but fun none the less. We hope you join us in May and June and July.....

<u>Date</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Genre</u>	<u>Actors</u>
✓ January 22, 2026	Groundhog Day	Comedy	Bill Murray
✓ February 26, 2026	Aqua Man & the Lost Kingdom	Adventure	Jason Momoa
✓ March 26, 2026	The Italian Job	Adventure	Mark Wahlberg
✓ April 23, 2026	Rental Family	Comedy/Drama	Brendan Fraser
May 28, 2026	Alita Battle Angel	Action	Rosa Salazar
June 25, 2026	Now You See Me/Now You Don't	Action	Woody Harrelson
July 23, 2026	For Richer or Poorer	Comedy	Tim Allen/Kirstie Alley
August 27, 2026			
September 24, 2026			
October 22, 2026			

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

Our BARC 2026 Movie Season continues in our new clubhouse with a great mix of fun movies and great people.

We'll see you in May at the Movies!

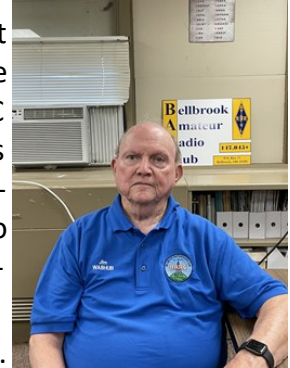
Tink
KD8NUA



Lunch Bunch

Jim Totten, [WA8HUB](#)

Hello my fellow lunch lovers. April 2026 is about over and we had some great lunches this month. Our Bellbrook Amateur Radio Club (BARC) lunches are scheduled on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month. As an aside regular BARC meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays. The 1st Thursday meeting is called the Planning Meeting and is primarily for the club officers and coordinators. As with any open membership club, club members are encouraged to attend. The 3rd Thursday meeting is for total membership. All members are welcomed. We do have internet Zoom access for those who can't attend in person.



Now for LUNCHES. You should have the lunch chart available on the next page.

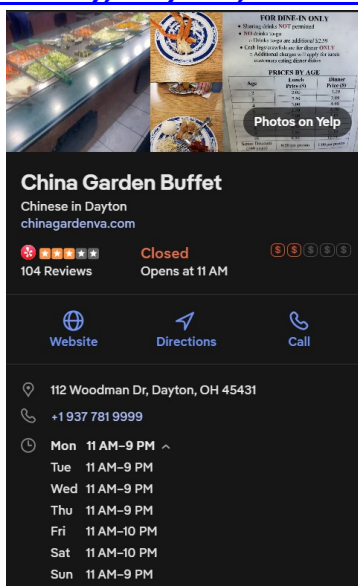
The May lunches in the table are in bold print. Now lets discuss the terrific lunches we had in April. Our first lunch on 04/14/26 was The Cherry House Cafe. The food there is top drawer. We had a good crowd. Eight hardy souls. Three folks had the Reuben Sandwich. The menu has hot and cold sandwiches, quiche, robust salads etc. The 2nd Lunch on April 26, 2026 is at another winner, Another Broken Egg Cafe. Their menu is wild. All kind of egg dishes from fried eggs, omelets, and several pancakes. We had 9 folks at this lunch. All had signed up in advance. Then we had a surprise guest. More than one Southwest Scrambler was ordered. Nobody left hungry.

Now comes May. Spring is here?? and we should have good weather. Our May lunches still have some of the most wonderful food. The first lunch in May will guarantee all will be full. On May 12, 2026 we attack China Garden Buffet. Located at Airway Shopping Center near WPAFB Area B. Plenty of seating and a wild selection of dishes. i.e. several kinds of chicken, seafood, beef, and veggies. Our second lunch is on May 26, 2026 at First Watch. This is the one in the Cornerstone complex near Costco. They have limited hours, 7:00 am to 2:30 pm. Another wild menu. Big dishes, elegant salads, a really wide range of selections. If you are not filled that's your fault.

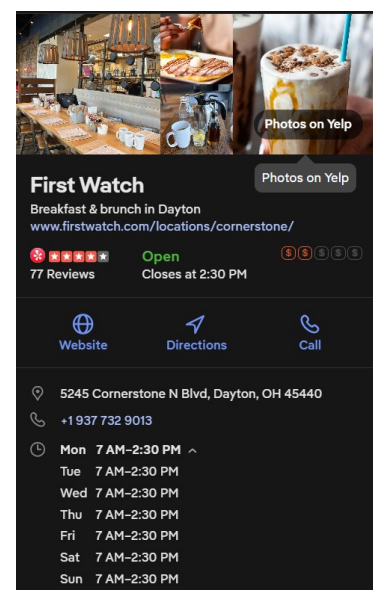
That's a wrap for this month. Happy eating.

73, Jim, [WA8HUB](#).

Tuesday, May 12th, 11:15am



Tuesday, May 26th, 11:15am



Click picture or hyperlink
for more info and maps

(Continued on next page)



Lunch Bunch List

Jim Totten, [WA8HUB](#)

Date	Restaurant	Address	City	Phone Number
01/13/26	Culp's Cafeteria	1000 Carillon Blvd	Dayton, OH 45409	(937) 293-2841
02/10/26	City Barbecue	2001 E. Dorothy Lane	Kettering, OH 45420	(937) 200-1006
02/24/26	Marion's Piazza	1320 N Fairfield Rd.	Beavercreek, OH 45432	(937) 429-3393
03/10/26	Red Robin	2671 Fairfield Commons Blvd.	Beavercreek, OH 45431	(937) 320-9800
03/24/26	Beavercreek Pizza Dive	4021 Dayton-Xenia Rd.	Beavercreek, OH 45432	(937) 431-8669
04/14/26	Cherry House Cafe	1241 Meadow Bridge Dr	Beavercreek, OH 45434	(937) 320-6200
04/28/26	Another Broken Egg Cafe 7:00 am to 2:00 pm	2453 Esquire Dr.	Beavercreek, OH 45431	(937) 912-5074
05/12/26	China Garden Buffet	112 Woodman Dr. Airway Shopping Center	Dayton, OH 45431	(937) 781-9999
05/26/26	First Watch 7:00 am to 2:30 pm	5245 Cornerstone North Blvd	Sugarcreek Twp, OH 45440	(937) 732-9013
06/09/26	Submarine House	3195 Dayton-Xenia Rd.	Beavercreek, OH 45434	(937) 429-8650
06/23/26	Roosters Wings	2430 N. Fairfield <i>The Shoppes at FC</i>	Beavercreek, OH 45431	(937) 702-9500
07/14/26	Butterbee's	217 Progress Dr.	Xenia, OH 45385	(937) 352-6504
07/28/26	Shawarma Grill	2844 Colonel Glenn Hwy	Fairborn, OH 45324	(937) 429-4959
08/11/26	Chic-Fil-A	5301 Cornerstone N Blvd	Sugarcreek Township, OH 45440	(937) 439-1700



Bellbrook Amateur Radio Club Open House

Geoff Kline, [KI5VNB](#)

The Bellbrook Amateur Radio Club welcomed members of the community to our Open House on April 19, 2026. This event provided an opportunity to showcase our new space, highlight the continued relevance of amateur radio, and strengthen our connections within the community.

We were pleased to see a strong turnout throughout the day. Club members had the chance to engage with a wide range of visitors, including local officials, prospective members, and fellow operators. Among our guests were the School Board President, the Mayor of Bellbrook, a member of Bellbrook City Council, two groups from the Sugarcreek Township Fire Department, and a representative from the Sugarcreek Police Department.

Conversations throughout the event covered many aspects of amateur radio today—from how it supports modern communication and public service efforts, to training opportunities and personal experiences in the hobby. Members also shared ideas for future improvements to our clubhouse, which have been noted for upcoming projects.

Overall, the Open House was a great success, reinforcing that amateur radio remains an active, valuable, and engaging part of our community.

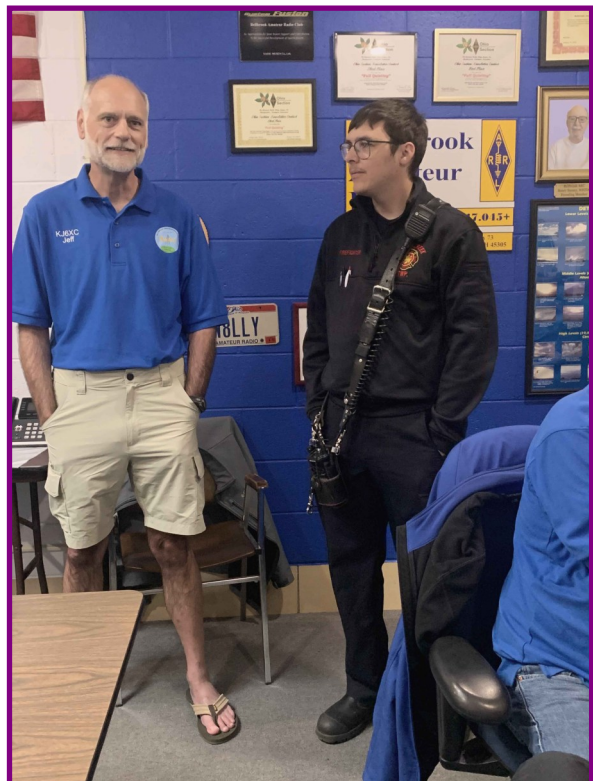
73, Geoff [KI5VNB](#)



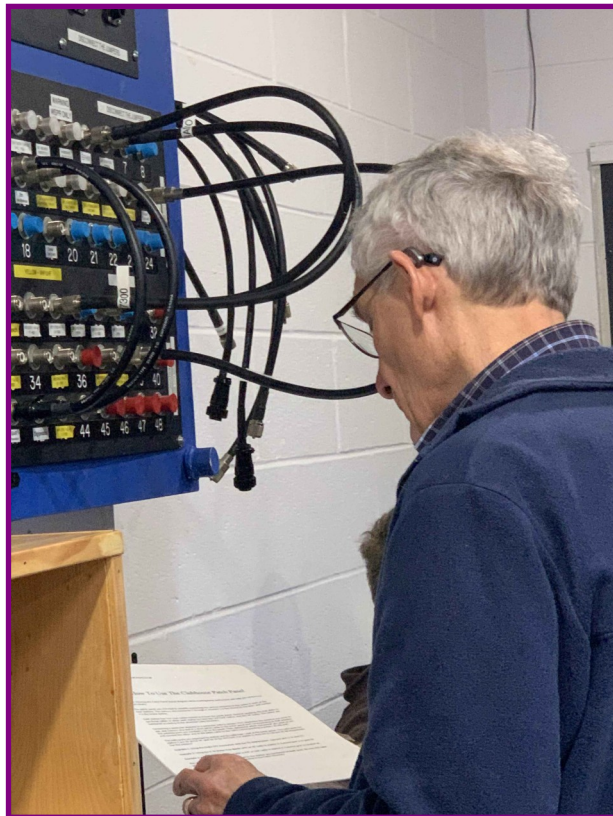
(Continued on next page)



Bellbrook Amateur Radio Club Open House (continued)



Bellbrook Amateur Radio Club Open House (continued)



A POTA Adventure At Kiser Lake

John Westerkamp, [W8LRJ](#) and Glenn Rodgers, [W18O](#)

Friday, April 17, finally looked like some decent weather with sunny skies, temperatures in the 60's early, and rising up to the 80's later with very little wind. Glenn and I decided this would be a great day for a POTA outing and, boy, were we right!

The day started at 6 am trying to spot the comet low on the horizon in the east without success, but it felt great and skies were clear. I met up with Glenn at his house around 7 am and we drove about 45 minutes north to [Kiser Lake State Park](#) (US-1966). Glenn remembered being there a long time ago and fishing from the shore. Apparently, that tradition is still going strong as the shore was lined with people fishing already at 8 am.

We drove around the park for awhile looking for a good place to set up and finally settled on a nice large shelter high on a hill overlooking the lake, hoping we wouldn't get kicked out by anybody who had reserved the shelter. We moved our gear from the car to the shelter and began setting up.



Glenn used an EFHW sloper antenna attached at the feedpoint to a mast on his car with the other end attached to a pole he mounted in the ground. Glenn took 40 meters to start off using his Yaesu FTDX10. I set up my Wolf River Coil vertical antenna and tuned it for 20 meters by adjusting the collar on the coil and measure SWR with an antenna analyzer. We had things all set up in less than half an hour and got on the air.

I was testing a new FT8 set-up with my Xiegu G90 radio connected to an iPad with a DigiRig Mobile soundcard and cables. The iPad was running iFTx for FT8 and came up right away (I had tested it at home to make sure), so I started calling CQ

POTA and got underway, quickly making 10 contacts to activate the park officially. At this point, I took a break and admired the beautiful park and weather. I hoped to get more contacts soon to make sure I had 10 good ones and then move to CW.



(Continued on next page)

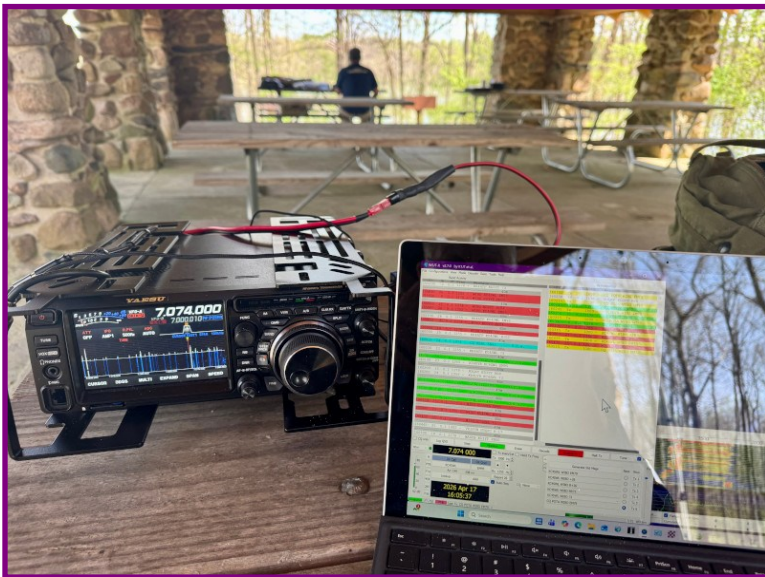


A POTA Adventure At Kiser Lake (continued)

Glenn started on CW with the goal of getting 10 contacts each on CW, FT8, and SSB. There was some interference that made things difficult initially, but Glenn was able to work through it and eventually made most of his goal.

Upon returning to my G90, I discovered that it was keying up, but that the Tx power was zero. I had run into this before and discovered that the net experts suggested a gentle rapping on the top of the radio in the back near the coax connector. Believe it or not, this mechanical persuasion actually worked and I was back on the air!

After making a few more FT8 contacts, I switched to CW and made a few more. Now it was time for lunch so I grabbed a picnic bench in the shelter facing the lake and enjoyed my homemade chicken salad and the views. This is what POTA is all about, playing radio and enjoying the great outdoors in the many State and National Parks in Ohio.



After lunch, I switched to 15 meters and Glenn took 20 meters. We made a few more contacts and then decided to call it a day. First we used AdifMaster to merge our FT8, CW, and SSB logs into one file and then uploaded it to the POTA website to get credit for our activations. Teardown took even less time and we were back on the road headed home.

But, hey, the route home took us down US-235 which happened to run right past this new gas station called Buc-ee's. How could we miss the opportunity! Luckily some of the excitement had died down and, although it was packed with visitors,

the roads were pretty clear. Glenn got a chopped brisket sandwich and some Jalapeno Smoked Sausage. I had already eaten, so just enjoyed the spectacle. After a quick photo-op in front of the Buc-ee's statue, we were back on the road and headed home. It was a great day to be outdoors and enjoy our POTA Adventure at Kiser Lake!



A POTA Adventure At Kiser Lake (continued)



May Hamclock Update

Ray Hitt, [N8VMX](#)

As June draws near with the anticipated closure of *clearskyinstitute.com* that has served HamClock to the amateur radio community for years, there are indeed some developments worth reporting.

First off, both *Open-Hamclock-Backend (OHB)* and *Hamclock.com* are independent, mature, essentially production-ready alternatives to the original HamClock server at *clearskyinstitute.com*. Many of you are using the last released client software, version 4.22. There will be no further updates from *clearskyinstitute*. Instead, *OHB* has developed a new version 4.23, and in the near future a version 4.24. [Hamclock.com](#) is also working on a version 4.23 so check their website for updates.



There are many users of Inovato HamClock systems that will benefit from this update which will allow future updates through *OHB*. My initial concern here is that these updates from *OHB* will lock you into using *OHB* from that point on. As things are right now, *Hamclock.com* is and will be compatible with client software from either *clearskyinstitute* or *OHB*. You can run *OHB* and it will automatically install client updates, or you can run *Hamclock.com* and it will stay on the version of client software you last downloaded. You can either temporarily change your backend server to *OHB* long enough to get the update then switch back to *Hamclock.com*, or you can manually download the *OHB* update files and install them, leaving the backend server pointed to *Hamclock.com*. This sounds a bit confusing for the average user that wants the software to operate like an appliance and not quite ready for undergrad computer science!

Since we've been exposed to AI quite a bit lately, I thought I would share my recent dialog with Grok regarding this subject. As always, take AI suggestions with a grain of salt, but these comments seem reasonable at first glance.

Query: *I am researching the current status of the main HamClock replacements to the original hosted at clearskyinstitute.com, namely OHB (Open-HamClock-Backend) and Hamclock.com There has been a client software release to version 4.23 by OHB which will operate past June when clearskyinstitute is supposed to go dark. I don't know if this software release renders Hamclock.com irrelevant or if HamClock.com is working on any update processes?*

Grok Response: Both *OHB (Open-HamClock-Backend)* and *hamclock.com* remain active, viable, and complementary replacements for the original *clearskyinstitute.com* backend, which is scheduled to go offline in June 2026. The original HamClock project reached end-of-life after the passing of its creator, Elwood Downey (WBOEW), with the final official client at version 4.22.

OHB (Open-HamClock-Backend) Status

- *OHB* is a fully open-source backend replacement (and related client maintenance effort) that keeps the classic HamClock interface alive by generating live propagation data, maps, and feeds from public sources (NOAA, NASA, etc.). It is completely independent of *clearskyinstitute.com*—no proxying—and has been production-ready for months.



May Hamclock Update (continued)

- Central/community server: Available at ***ohb.hamclock.app:80*** (or similar; use the `-b` flag on the client).
- Self-hosting: Fully supported—even on low-power hardware like a Raspberry Pi 3B+.
- Client updates: The OHB-associated team maintains the HamClock client source (via the `open-hamclock/hamclock` GitHub repo). The latest public release as of April 21, 2026, is `v4.24b00.0` (with ongoing betas and improvements for modern backends and standards). These updated clients work with OHB's backend (and other compatible servers).

Hamclock.com Status

Hamclock.com is a free, community-operated hosted backend (on AWS) that also provides a full drop-in replacement for the original service. It was initially built as a fork/extension of the `open-hamclock-backend` (OHB) project but has since been made fully independent with its own data pipelines, real-time PSK Reporter integration, improved VOACAP handling, and other enhancements. It sources everything directly from primary providers and has zero dependency on `clearskyinstitute.com`.

It is actively maintained (serving hundreds to thousands of installations) and explicitly designed to survive the June 2026 shutdown indefinitely.

Switching is simple: Use the ***-b hamclock.com:80*** flag (on client 4.22+) or edit your hosts file/router DNS to redirect `clearskyinstitute.com` to their IP (3.128.20.228). No client changes beyond that are required.

A pre-built Raspberry Pi image (pre-configured for `hamclock.com`) is in development for easier setup.

Long-term stability: A trustee (Philip Gladstone of `PSKReporter.info`) has been arranged for the domain, DNS, and infrastructure.

Does the OHB Client Release (e.g., 4.23 or latest updates) Make Hamclock.com Irrelevant?

No. The updated client releases from the OHB team (whatever the exact version number) are improvements to the original HamClock software itself. They enhance compatibility, performance, and features while working with *any* backend that follows the established API standards—including both OHB's own servers and `hamclock.com`.

Hamclock.com is not “working on” its own client fork; it relies on (and benefits from) the community client updates coming from the OHB/`openhamclock` effort. Meanwhile, `hamclock.com` focuses on reliable hosted service, production hardening, and extra features that go beyond a pure open-source backend. Many users (and even some hardware distributors like `Inovato`) treat the two as parallel options you can switch between easily.

In short:

- Choose OHB if you want fully open-source, self-hostable, or the community central server.
- Choose `hamclock.com` if you want a polished, zero-maintenance hosted service with some proprietary enhancements and proven uptime.
- Or run both and switch as needed (some setups even offer menu-based selection).



May Hamclock Update (continued)

Both projects are healthy, independent of each other in operation (though they share some early DNA), and committed to keeping classic HamClock running well past June 2026. The client updates you mentioned simply make the experience better no matter which backend you pick.

For the absolute latest:

- OHB: <https://ohb.works/> and <https://github.com/openhamclock/hamclock/>
- Hamclock.com: <https://www.hamclock.com/> (includes live data-feed status and switching instructions)

Query: Please explain how updates through OHB will allow operation through HamClock.com? It seems awkward to switch backend servers between the two to get updates.

Grok Response: No permanent or awkward switching of backends is required for normal operation. You can (and most people do) run your HamClock client full-time on hamclock.com for all data, maps, propagation, PSK Reporter, etc., while using the OHB infrastructure only temporarily when you want to perform an online client software update. Here's exactly how it works, step by step.

1. The two pieces are separate

- **Client software** = the HamClock program itself (the GUI you see on your screen/Raspberry Pi/Inovato/etc.). The OHB team (openhamclock/hamclock GitHub repo) is the group that maintains and releases updated versions of this client (current latest is v4.24b00.0 as of April 21, 2026; earlier betas were numbered in the 4.23x series). These updates add bug fixes, better backend support, beta-version handling, ESP device fixes, improved satellite planning, etc.
- **Backend server** = the internet service that feeds live data to the client (propagation maps, space weather, DX spots, etc.).

hamclock.com is a completely independent, production-hardened hosted backend (forked early from OHB but now fully rebuilt with its own pipelines). It implements the exact same API/protocol the classic HamClock client expects, so any OHB-maintained client version works with it seamlessly.

You choose your daily backend with the **-b** flag (or **/etc/hosts** redirect) and can change it any time.

2. How online client updates actually work

The newer OHB-maintained clients (4.23+ and 4.24 series) have an improved built-in “upgrade me” / online update feature (following the original Clear Sky Institute rules for beta and version checking).

However, the update artifacts and software server are currently hosted and bound to the OHB backend at **ohb.hamclock.app:80**. That is why the release notes and community instructions say things like “artifacts bound to ohb.hamclock.app” and “you will need a backend server change to allow online updating.”

Automatic updates only happen when your client is pointed at the OHB server. Clients pointed at hamclock.com (or any other backend) do not see the update server, so they stay on whatever version you last installed.



May Hamclock Update (continued)

3. The simple temporary-switch process (takes < 2 minutes)

If you are currently running on hamclock.com and want the latest client:

1. Stop HamClock.
2. Temporarily point it at OHB (one of these two easy ways):
3. Command line: `./hamclock -b ohb.hamclock.app:80`
4. Or edit `/etc/hosts` (or your router DNS) to redirect clearskyinstitute.com to the OHB IP for a minute.
5. Start HamClock → it will now see the newer version on the OHB software server and offer the online upgrade (or you can force it via the menu).
6. Once the new client binary is installed and running, stop it again.
7. Switch the backend back to hamclock.com (`-b hamclock.com:80` or revert the hosts file).
8. Restart → you are now running the latest OHB client but still using hamclock.com for all your daily data feeds.

That's it. The switch is only for the 30–60 seconds it takes to download and install the update. After that you stay on hamclock.com permanently if you prefer its extra features (real-time PSK streaming, improved VOACAP, etc.).

4. Alternative: Manual update (no backend switch at all)

If you don't want to touch the backend even temporarily:

- Download the latest release package directly from the openhamclock/hamclock GitHub releases page.
- Install it manually on your Raspberry Pi / Inovato / desktop using the provided scripts (the repo now includes excellent Debian/RPi staging and management scripts exactly for this).

Many users (especially on pre-built images) just do the manual route or keep their device pointed at OHB full-time if they don't care about hamclock.com's extras.

Bottom line

- hamclock.com does not become irrelevant — it remains an excellent, zero-maintenance hosted option.
- OHB client updates do not force you to use the OHB backend daily — they only require a one-time temporary pointer to OHB's update server.
- Both projects cooperate: the OHB team handles the client software, while hamclock.com (and the public OHB server) handle reliable backends. You get the best of both with almost zero friction.



May Hamclock Update (continued)

Update on ESP8266-based HamClocks: Most people have moved on to Raspberry Pis and computer monitors to display Hamclock, but I am nostalgic with the wood-grained dedicated Hamclock that I built a couple years ago and want to keep using it.



This type of HamClock uses an [ESP8266 Huzzah chip](#) and runs HamClock client software up to version 3.10, where compatibility was dropped as the file size grew beyond the 8266's capabilities. I reported in the past that there is a one-liner modification in the client software ESPHamClock.zip version 3.10 in file *wifi.cpp* that would let you change the backend server from *clearskyinstitute.com* to either *hamclock.com* or *ohb.hamclock.app*. I have seen reports that others have already performed this mod and it worked for them.

Specific instructions to perform an ESP8266 software update were posted on the *clearskyinstitute.com* website which I have archived. I manually changed one line of the software using the Arduino IDE and uploaded the change directly into the ESP8266 Huzzah processor with a USB-A to USB-C cable. It only took a few minutes and it worked perfectly. This is the same way the chip was initially programmed when the clock was built from scratch.

OHB has provided support for these ESP8266-based HamClocks running client software 3.10 since OHB version 1.0.10 (Apr 8th), and enhanced the support in OHB versions 1.0.11 (Apr 11th) and 1.0.12 (Apr 17th).

That's all for now. If anyone has questions, let me know.

73, Ray [N8VMX](#)



What Is AI and What Can I do With it?

Bill Salyers, AJ8B








Most of us have been overwhelmed with advertising and articles describing AI, what it can do, and how it might affect our lives. I thought it was time to share some information on this technology.

For the typical user, AI “engines” can be accessed via a website or an app. There are several free AI tools that you can use including ChatGPT, Claude, Gemini, and Grok. If you are a Microsoft Office user, you may have been introduced to Copilot. For the sake of this article, we will discuss ChatGPT.

What we are **not** going to do is to deep dive into what makes AI work, Large Language Models, and other buzzwords.

To start with, What Can ChatGPT Do?

ChatGPT is great for:

-  Writing (emails, essays, stories, scripts)
-  Explaining concepts (math, science, history, tech)
-  Studying and tutoring
-  Coding help (examples, debugging, explanations)
-  Translation and language practice
-  Summaries and rewrites
-  Brainstorming ideas (business names, content ideas, solutions)

Think of it as a general-purpose helper, not an all-knowing oracle.

How do you Start Using ChatGPT?

1. Open ChatGPT (www.chatgpt.com) in your browser or app
2. You will see a query box, something like “What can I help with?”
3. Type your question or request
4. Press **Enter** (or send)

That’s it—you’re already using it.

The correct way to ask a question or request information (known as **the prompt**) is the real trick to using ChatGPT. The quality of the answer depends on how you ask.

For instance, this would be an example of a Vague prompt:

“Explain Ham Radio.”

Here is a better prompt:

“Explain Ham Radio to a junior high student in simple terms with examples.”

Here is an even better prompt:

“Explain ham radio to a 45-year-old person with a professional background with examples.”

Try it – the difference is amazing!



What is AI and What can I do with it? (continued)

The difference between this and just using a search engine like Google is that Google will return items that it finds on the web where ChatGPT **creates** content for you.

At the end of the answer, you can click a link to copy the answer to the windows clipboard, have it provide further research, create a presentation, or even create images.

Here are a few tips for strong prompts to return better results.

- Be specific
- Give context
- Say what format you want (list, steps, essays, table, etc.)

Here are some common prompt examples

Asking for explanations

“explain a superheterodyne receiver like I am 12 years old .”

Writing help

“Rewrite this paragraph to sound more friendly.”

Learning & studying

“Describe two ways to learn morse code”

“Quiz me on ham radio, one question at a time.”

Coding

“Write a simple HTML page with a button.”

You can reply back to the results you get to help refine the answer in the prompt window. You don't have to start over if the answer isn't perfect.

In the prompt window, you can say:

- “Make it shorter”
- “Explain it more simply”
- “Give me more examples” (ChatGPT remembers the context of the conversation)

Here are a few things to keep in mind if you use ChatGPT

ChatGPT is not perfect

- It can make mistakes
- It may sound confident even when wrong
- Always double-check important facts

Privacy tip

- Don't share passwords, personal IDs, or sensitive private info



What is AI and What can I do with it? (continued)

🕒 Knowledge limits

- It may not know very recent events depending on the model and settings

Best Practices

- Treat it like a collaborator, not a calculator
- Ask follow-up questions
- Experiment with different ways of asking
- Use it to learn *how* to think, not just *what* to answer

Example: A Full Interaction

You: “Help me write a resume summary for a junior software developer.”

ChatGPT: (Provides a draft)

You: “Make it more confident and shorter.”

ChatGPT: (Improves it)

That back-and-forth is where ChatGPT shines

Final Thought

ChatGPT works best when you’re curious, specific, and willing to iterate. There’s no “perfect” prompt—just better conversations. You probably guessed it, I used ChatGPT to compose this article. Below is the final text that I got from ChatGPT.

“If you want, I can also:

- **Tailor this tutorial for kids, teachers, or workplaces**
- **Turn it into a slide deck**
- **Make a one-page cheat sheet**

Just say the word 🙌”

Below is what I entered in the Prompt field:

“Compare and contrast wire antennas for the 160-meter ham band”

Here are the results—May be right or may be wrong, but here is what I got:

“Below is a practical, wire-antenna-only comparison for the 160-meter (1.8–1.9 MHz) band, focused on what hams can realistically build, how each antenna behaves, and where each one excels or disappoints on Top Band. I’ll stay away from towers, aluminum verticals, and exotic arrays—this is wire in trees, on masts, or near the ground.”

Why 160-meter wire antennas are challenging

- Wavelength \approx 530 ft
- Most wire antennas are electrically short
- Height is usually $< 0.15 \lambda$
- Radiation angle and ground losses dominate performance
- Many wire antennas are excellent on receive but mediocre on DX transmit



What is AI and What can I do with it? (continued)

Major Wire Antenna Types for 160 Meters

Half-Wave Horizontal Dipole (~260 ft total)

Description - Two ~130-ft wires fed in the center, typically 40–70 ft high.

Pros

- Simple to build
- No radials or ground system
- Predictable tuning
- Good regional coverage

Cons

- High takeoff angle at realistic heights
- Weak DX performance

Radiation pattern

- Mostly straight up (NVIS-like)
- Poor low-angle radiation unless >130 ft high (rare)

Best for

- Ragchewing
- Regional nets
- Backup antenna

Bottom line: Works, but often disappointing for DX on 160 m.

2. Inverted-L (Vertical + Horizontal Wire)

Description - A vertical wire (30–70 ft) with a horizontal top wire extending outward.

Pros

- One of the best wire antennas for 160 m DX
- Vertical section produces low-angle radiation
- Horizontal section adds top loading
- Much easier than a full vertical

Cons

- Needs radials or counterpoise
- Asymmetrical pattern
- Needs at least one tall support

Radiation pattern

- Strong low-angle component
- Directional favoring the horizontal leg



What is AI and What can I do with it? (continued)

Best for

- DX-oriented stations
- Properties with trees

Often the best “performance per foot” wire antenna on Top Band.

3. T-Antenna (Top-Loaded Vertical Wire)

Description - A vertical wire with two (or more) horizontal wires forming a “T” at the top.

Pros

- More symmetrical than an inverted-L
- Better current distribution than base-loaded vertical
- Lower loss than short verticals without top loading

Cons

- Mechanical complexity
- Requires multiple supports or spreaders
- Still needs radials

Radiation pattern

- Low-angle, fairly omnidirectional

Best for

- DX with limited height
- Stations that can support top wires

Electrically excellent, mechanically harder than an inverted-L.

4. Full-Wave Horizontal Loop (~530 ft)

Description - Closed loop (square, rectangle, or irregular) fed with ladder line or coax + tuner.

Pros

- Very quiet on receive
- No ground system
- Multi-band capable with tuner
- Robust and forgiving

Cons

- Very high radiation angle
- Large physical size
- Weak DX performance on 160



What is AI and What can I do with it? (continued)

Radiation pattern

- Strong overhead radiation
- Some broadside lobes, but still high-angle

Best for

- RX performance
- Regional QSOs
- Noise-limited locations

Excellent listener, average talker on Top Band.

Performance Comparison Table

Antenna	TX DX	RX Noise	Space	Complexity	Notes
Dipole	Poor-Fair	Good	Large	Low	High angle
Inverted-L	Excellent	Moderate	Moderate	Low-Mod	Top wire helps
T-antenna	Very good	Moderate	Moderate	Mod-High	Symmetrical

Key Takeaways for 160-Meter Wire Antennas

- **Vertical current is everything** for DX on 160 m
- Horizontal wire antennas excel at **RX**, not TX
- Top loading dramatically improves efficiency
- Ground systems matter even with wire antennas
- RX antennas often provide bigger gains than TX upgrades

If you want, I can:

Compare inverted-L vs your current vertical

Help design a wire RX antenna that fits your property

Rank antennas specifically for DX vs ragchew vs contest use



Special Event Stations for May

Paul Sharp, [WS8R](#)

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

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

https://www.qsl.net/va3rj/spevents_dx.html. This link list a lot of SES in Europe and Russia.

Here is my pick of the litter of SES that I think will be of interest to my fellow BARC members. There are SES commemorating: Parks On The Air, 2 Indianapolis races, honoring our Armed Forces (BARC has many former military personnel), and rag time music.

05/03/2026 | PAARC in the Park 2026 “The POTA Challenge: Beyond the Park”. May 3, 1300Z-1900Z, K3ZMC, Collegetown, PA. Pottstown Area Amateur Radio Club . 7266. QSL. Walter J Skavinsky-KB3SBC, 1574 Layfield Road, Pennsburg, PA 18073-1702. prez@paarc.net

05/03/2026 | The INDYCAR Grand Prix - Race One. May 3-May 9, 0000Z-2359Z, W9IMS, Indianapolis, IN. The Indianapolis Motor Speedway ARC. 3.840 7.245 14.245 18.140. Certificate & QSL. Indianapolis Motor Speedway Amateur Radio Club, P.O. BOX 30954, Indianapolis, IN 46230. See the website for ALL information! w9ims.org

05/09/2026 | Armed Forces Day. May 9, 1700Z-2359Z, NI6IW. San Diego, CA. USS Midway Museum Ship CV-41 COMEDTRA NI6IW. 7.250 14.320 14.070 PSK31 Star on. PAPA System Repeaters. QSL. USS Midway Museum Ship COMEDTRA NI6IW, 910 N Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA 92101. SASE QSL, see www.qrz.com/db/ni6iw.

05/09/2026 | Golden Spike Special Event Station. May 9, 1500Z-2300Z, W7G, Corinne, UT. Ogden Amateur Radio Club - W7SU. 7.235 7.040 14.255 14.040. QSL. Ogden Amateur Radio Club - W7SU, PO Box 3353, Ogden, UT 84409. ogdenarc.org

05/09/2026 | Jamestown Landing Day Event. May 9, 1400Z-2000Z, K4RC, Williamsburg, VA. Williamsburg Area Amateur Radio Club. 7.265 14.265. Certificate. Williamsburg Area Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 1470, Williamsburg, VA 23187. www.k4rc.net

05/09/2026 | National Train Day. May 9, 1400Z-1900Z, W4LX, Fort Myers, FL. Fort Myers ARC. 14.044 14.244 7.044 7.244. Certificate. Fort Myers ARC Train Day, P.O. Box 061183, Fort Myers, FL 33906-1183. trainday@fmarc.net

05/10/2026 | 40th Anniversary of the Titan Missile Museum. May 10, 1700Z-2100Z, WE7GV, Sahuarita, AZ. Green Valley Amateur Radio Club. 14.242 14.244 14.246. Certificate & QSL. Tom Lang, 1085 West El Toro Road, Sahuarita, AZ 85629.



Special Event Stations for May (continued)

05/14/2026 | Honoring the Serving Members and Veterans of our Armed Forces. May 14, 1400Z-1900Z, KA4TAL, Conway, SC. Horry Post 111 The American Legion Amateur Radio Club. 14.255 7.264 14.275 7.185. Certificate & QSL. The American Legion Amateur Radio Club, Horry Post 111, 2830 Oak Street, Conway, SC 29526. talarcpost111sc@gmail.com

05/18/2026 | The Indianapolis 500 - Race Two. May 18-May 24, 0000Z-2359Z, W9IMS, Indianapolis, IN. The Indianapolis Motor Speedway ARC. 3.840 7.245 14.245 18.140. Certificate & QSL. Indianapolis Motor Speedway Amateur Radio Club, P.O. BOX 30954, Indianapolis, IN 46230. See the website for ALL information! w9ims.org

05/27/2026 | Scott Joplin Ragtime International Music Festival. May 27-May 31, 0000Z-1500Z, WOR, Sedalia, MO. Sedalia Pettis Amateur Radio Klub (SPARK). 14.250 28.4. QSL. Bret Kuhns, 1880 Quisenberry Rd, Sedalia, MO 65301.

05/30/2026 | Audie Murphy. Audie Murphy became a national hero during World War II as the most decorated combat soldier of the war. Among his 33 awards was the Medal of Honor. May 30, 1400Z-1900Z, W2A, CHRISTIANBURG, VA. New River Valley Amateur Radio Club. 14.262. QSL. Danny Wylam, 710 McDaniel Drive Southeast, CHRISTIANBURG, VA 24073-3848. dannywylam@gmail.com

Answers to Amateur Radio Test Questions on pages 39-41

[Technician \(pg. 39\)](#)

T3A10 (D)

T6D11 (A)

T6B02 (C)

T1A02 (C) [97.1]

[General \(pg. 40\)](#)

G2C06 (D)

G7A03 (A)

G3C06 (B)

G2E01 (D)

[Amateur Extra \(pg. 41\)](#)

E7B01 (A)

E1C09 (B) [97.307]

E5D11 (B)

E3C05 (A)



Amateur License Test Questions

[Answers are on page 38](#)

Technician

T3A10

What effect does multi-path propagation have on data transmissions?

- A. Transmission rates must be increased by a factor equal to the number of separate paths observed
- B. Transmission rates must be decreased by a factor equal to the number of separate paths observed
- C. No significant changes will occur if the signals are transmitted using FM
- D. Error rates are likely to increase

T6D11

Which of the following is a resonant or tuned circuit?

- A. An inductor and a capacitor in series or parallel
- B. A linear voltage regulator
- C. A resistor circuit used for reducing standing wave ratio
- D. A circuit designed to provide high-fidelity audio

T6B02

What electronic component allows current to flow in only one direction?

- A. Resistor
- B. Fuse
- C. Diode
- D. Driven element

T1A02

Which agency regulates and enforces the rules for the Amateur Radio Service in the United States?

- A. FEMA
- B. Homeland Security
- C. The FCC
- D. All these choices are correct



Amateur License Test Questions (continued)

[Answers are on page 38](#)

General

G2C06

What does the term “zero beat” mean in CW operation?

- A. Matching the speed of the transmitting station
- B. Operating split to avoid interference on frequency
- C. Sending without error
- D. Matching the transmit frequency to the frequency of a received signal

G7A03

Which type of rectifier circuit uses two diodes and a center-tapped transformer?

- A. Full-wave
- B. Full-wave bridge
- C. Half-wave
- D. Synchronous

G3C06

What is a characteristic of HF scatter?

- A. Phone signals have high intelligibility
- B. Signals have a fluttering sound
- C. There are very large, sudden swings in signal strength
- D. Scatter propagation occurs only at night

G2E01

Which mode is normally used when sending RTTY signals via AFSK with an SSB transmitter?

- A. USB
- B. DSB
- C. CW
- D. LSB



Amateur License Test Questions (continued)

[Answers are on page 38](#)

Amateur Extra

E7B01

For what portion of the signal cycle does each active element in a push-pull, Class AB amplifier conduct?

- A. More than 180 degrees but less than 360 degrees
- B. Exactly 180 degrees
- C. The entire cycle
- D. Less than 180 degrees

E1C09

What is the highest modulation index permitted at the highest modulation frequency for angle modulation below 29.0 MHz?

- A. 0.5
- B. 1.0
- C. 2.0
- D. 3.0

E5D11

How much real power is consumed in a circuit consisting of a 100-ohm resistor in series with a 100-ohm inductive reactance drawing 1 ampere?

- A. 70.7 watts
- B. 100 watts
- C. 141.4 watts
- D. 200 watts

E3C05

What orientation of B_z (B sub z) increases the likelihood that charged particles from the Sun will cause disturbed conditions?

- A. Southward
- B. Northward
- C. Eastward
- D. Westward



Editorial Policy and Style Guidelines for *Full Quieting*

Editorial Policy

Full Quieting welcomes articles from BARC members on any ham radio subject that is relevant to BARC. Our focus is our BARC members. We will not reprint items or articles that are easily available by other means (web, magazines, etc.).

Most articles will be “how to” or “what I did” articles that focus on technical or operational subjects such as a construction (antennas, equipment, stations, etc.), the use of hardware or software, operating in unique/challenging circumstances, or a memoir.

Full Quieting will also consider an occasional article on policy issues regarding the various national licensing/regulatory agencies and/or amateur radio associations so long as the article is relevant to BARC members and constructive in tone and recommendations.

Although all *Full Quieting* articles represent the experiences and points-of-view of their authors and not BARC, articles that focus on policy issues will be specifically labeled as a reflection of the author’s opinion.

Regardless of subject, when you submit an article you acknowledge that you are the original author or creator and you grant publication rights to BARC. Anything you submit remains your property and you may have it published elsewhere without the need for permission from *Full Quieting*.

Style Guidelines

Language: English is the official language of *Full Quieting* and all articles should be submitted in English. Don’t be concerned if English is not your first language: just tell your story in your own voice and use translating tools such as Google Translate to help if necessary.

File format: Submit your article as a Word, Word Perfect, OpenOffice or text file attachment to an email. A shared document available for download (such as a Google Doc) is also okay. **Do not submit as an email or PDF file.**

Pictures and other graphics: Do not embed pictures or tables in the article. Please submit as an email attachment or a shared image available for download. Please reduce the file size of the images before you send them to *Full Quieting*. Large files can be attached to a series of emails. Keep file size in mind regarding publication quality: for example, a half page image in the final PDF version of *Full Quieting* should be at least 400 pixels wide. If a photograph or graphic was taken or created by someone else, you should have their permission to use it and the permission of anyone identifiable in the image. **If you capture images from the web, provide a citation (URL) for that source and make sure the source does not prohibit use of the image in *Full Quieting*.**

(Continued on next page)



Editorial Policy and Style Guidelines for *Full Quieting*

(Continued from previous page)

Use these style conventions

- We are hams, not Hams, and our hobby is ham radio This is a change to our original format
- The name of our organization is: Bellbrook Amateur Radio Club or BARC
- The code we use is Morse (capitalize the M)
- We use Yagi antennas (capitalize the Y)
- Q codes should be capitalized: QRM, QSB QSY
- The plural of QSO is QSOs, not QSO's
- Modes should be capitalized: CW, SSB, FT8, RTTY
- Bands are written as 10 m, 15 m etc.
- The abbreviation for a Silent Key is SK.
- You might have had an Elmer, not an elmer

Bruce N7RR has provided a [two-page check list](#) of common International System of Units (SI) formats and abbreviations.

Use these formatting conventions:

- Set all borders to 1 inch. The preferred font is Calibri, 12 point.
- Do not use tabs or spaces at the beginning of a paragraph
- Use only a single paragraph or carriage return at the end of each paragraph
- To enhance readability, use two spaces after the period at the end of a sentence.



Miscellaneous BARC Info

REGULARLY SCHEDULED NETS

Daily (Sunday through Saturday) 1030, 1615 and 1845 Ohio Single Sideband Net (OSSBN) Primary: 3972.5 KHz LSB Alternates: 3968 & 7272 KHz LSB

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

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

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

Sundays 2100 Miami Co. Voice & Data Net (Data Net follows Voice Net) 145.230 (-) (no PL)

Winlink Tuesdays GCARES Winlink Net Any time on Tuesdays Eastern Time Send To: W8LRJ, Cc: KE8FMJ W8GCA-10 445.010 (S), W6CDR-10 145.010 (S)

Tuesdays 1900 Dayton Veterans Admin Amateur Radio Club Net (W8DVA) 443.850 + 107.2 pl

Tuesdays 1915 Ohio ARES HF Net W8SGT Net Control at OEMA HQ Primary: 3902 KHz LSB (+/- QRM) Alternate: 7240 KHz LSB (+/- QRM)

Tuesdays 1945 Ohio Digital Emergency Net Primary: 3584.5 KHz USB (1500 WF) Alternate: 7072 KHz USB

Tuesdays 2000 MoCoARES Weekly Net 146.640 (-) (123.0 Hz PL) (Except—No Net on last Tuesday of even months (MoCoARES meeting) (Except—On 2nd Tuesday: Voice and Data Net on 444.250 (+) (123.0 PL)

Tuesdays 2100 GCARES Net (Voice & Data) 146.910 (-)(no PL) [Alt = 442.725]

Ohio Winlink Wednesdays OH ARES Winlink Net Any time on Wednesdays Eastern Time Send To: K8EAF, Cc: W8LRJ, KE8FMJ W8GCA-10 445.010 (S), W6CDR-10 145.010 (S)

Wednesdays 2000 Ohio District 3 ARES Net (West Central Ohio Regional Net) Primary: 145.110 (-) (67.0 PL) Alternate: 146.820 (-) (77.0 PL)

Wednesdays 2000 Beginners Net (Dayton Area) 444.875 (+) (94.8 PL)

ZOOM-Basic Setup & Configuration

Here's a link to the Zoom Video Tutorials: [Zoom how-to video tutorials – Zoom Help Center](#)

Also see: "Join a Meeting" and the "Joining & Configuring Audio & Video" tutorials for new users. Send questions or problems to John, [W8LRJ](#) ASAP but BEFORE the next meeting.

BARC Fundraising Opportunity — Kroger's Rewards Program Please use your Kroger Card when shopping at Kroger's and support BARC. If you haven't signed up and need help, bring your Kroger Card to the next BARC meeting, and we'll help you get registered (contact the [BARC Treasurer](#)).

ARRL Discounted Membership Offer One of the benefits of club membership is the opportunity to become an ARRL member at a discounted price. BARC is an ARRL affiliated club and receives a commission for new first-time ARRL memberships transacted through the club. BARC passes on this commission (discount) as a club membership benefit to promote ARRL membership. BARC members currently receive a \$15 discount on a NEW first year ARRL membership cost when placed through the Club. Please contact the [BARC Treasurer](#) for details.



Directions to BARC Clubhouse and Radio Room

St. Pierre Education Center
3757 Upper Bellbrook Rd
Bellbrook, OH 45305

[Map Link](#)

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

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

