



## Monthly Meeting Minutes for June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 – Approved

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The Bella Vista Radio Club held its June meeting on 6/1/2017, at Highland Christian Church. The meeting was conducted by club president, Ken Mummery, K6RLA, with eighteen (18) members and guests in attendance, of which 17 were hams, and two new members.

Minutes for the May 2017 meeting were approved as posted on the website.

Club Treasurer Marc Whittlesey, W0KYZ, reported the club's checking account balance after the payment of dues is \$1,632.21 .

INTRODUCTIONS: One first-time visitor was in attendance...Bob Flickinger, K4PPL, who later joined. Our distinguished YL guest was Alice Carroll, the wife of Tom Carroll, KE6UNB.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Club Repeater** – Repeater Trustee K5QBX and technical officer K5SAW reported on the 147.255 repeater at its new location. Relocation to the Smith Two-Way Radio tower on the hill across from the Jane Walmart took place on May 5th, and a certificate of appreciation from the Club was presented to Mike Smith, K5SRS. Treasurer W0KYZ requested that Fred and Steve submit a list of repeater related expenses over the past year.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Field Day** – Fred, K5QBX, said he is exploring various ideas for club participation in ARRL Field Day, to be held Saturday & Sunday, June 24-25<sup>th</sup> (<http://www.arrl.org/field-day>). Members and guests willing to assist with set-up, operation, food and tear-down, should contact Fred (on the repeater, or via contact info on the website/club roster).

**Club Activities Coordinator** – Using Field Day as an example of planning needed, K5XK asked for volunteers to serve as Activities Coordinator and/or assistant, as described in the Addendum below, immediately following the minutes.\*

**Emergency Communications** - KG5MCF, reported on the Club's retirement gift to retiring Bella Vista police chief Ken Farmer, KD5UFY, who was also a former Repeater Trustee. Jack will next coordinate an appointment to introduce a small contingent of club members to Capt. Tim Cook. The goal will be to offer BVRC's assistance with public service and emergency communications opportunities.

**Education & Licensing** - Glenn Kilpatrick, WB5L, agreed to become the VE Team liaison with the ARRL VEC, and the team contact person. The VE Team will administer FCC license exams to new and upgrading radio amateurs. Glenn further described future organizational steps for Club consideration. (See addendum, at the end of the minutes.\*\*)

**Program Committee** - Due to the importance of having interesting programs for each meeting, Evans also asked that one or more members consider stepping up to be Program Chairman, or at least help on a Program Committee. Ron said he will continue to assist with monthly programs, but others are needed to help identify, plan and contact potential presenters.

### **PROGRAM:**

K5QBX and K5SAW presented a chronological photo history of the Club Repeater dating back to the antenna and feedline issues while located on the Trafalgar water tower. The presentation and pictorial history detailed the various gear used (Kendecom, GE Master Exec, and current ICOM FR-3000 radios, the Decibel Products DB-224E antenna, and duplexers), plus the many hours of troubleshooting, soldering, fabricating, programming and tweaking the repeater system. Following its current installation on the K5SRS site, the end result is that the repeater is performing superbly, providing local HT access and wide area coverage between Neosho MO and Elkins AR, southeast of Fayetteville. Many thanks, Fred and Steve!

### **ADDENDUM**

**1. From Ron / K5XK, re. Activity Chairman or Coordinator:** The BVRC Mission Statement (<http://www.bellavistaradioclub.org/mission.html>) outlines the importance of this committee. We can have good meetings, interesting programs, etc., but until we get member involvement in a wide array of activities such as Field Day, etc., we will never realize our potential. We have a particularly nice facility. Our two club members who are also Highland Christian Church members (Bob McIntire/AC5LX & Walt Gaspord/AF5XY) have offered the meeting room, kitchen and parking lot for additional club activities when there is no conflict with the church calendar.

Activities Committee:

- The goals are to develop an annual 'Activity Calendar,' and to help facilitate various club activities.
- Initially, the focus would be on a "Semi-Annual Calendar" for June/July through the end of 2017.
- Activities would be added after identifying ongoing annual events and one time only activities.
- Examples of activities are social, educational, public service & emergency communications events.
- Some would have potential PR and publicity value for the Amateur Radio hobby, and for BVRC.
- Ideally, most events & activities would potentially involve a maximum number of club members.

The Chairman/Coordinator & assistant(s) would research various sources, such as calendars of events (e.g., ARRL Field Day, Kids Day, "JOTA" or Boy Scouts' Jamboree on the Air, etc.). Locally, we would also review Bella Vista, the Greater Bentonville chamber calendar, and any other Benton County events calendars to identify opportunities with which we might align the Club. Coordinate with the webmaster to keep the master calendar current.

The calendar would include the following type events:

- Monthly Meetings (1st Thurs., each month)
- Weekly Nets & Informal Roundtables (Wednesdays and Sundays)
- Socials (hamfests & swap meets, potlucks, annual Christmas parties, etc).
- Licensing (monthly VE exams & possible training classes)
- Emergency Communications Training & Demonstration (annual ARRL Field Day weekend in June)
- Public Service (possible event communications support)

A proposed calendar of events and activities would be brought to the full club for discussion and vote, but remain somewhat fluid and be updated as needs and opportunities arise. The Committee may be asked to assist with, and/or facilitate some of the activities.

**2. From Glenn / WB5L, re. Testing & Licensing:** I volunteered to become the VE Team liaison with the ARRL VEC, and the team contact person. Basically, I will get approval for, coordinate VE testing sessions with the club. I will manage the testing sessions to ensure proper procedures and report exam results to the ARRL VEC.

According to the ARRL, we have the following club members who are VE's:

Wright, Phil	AF5XH
Sobotka, Harold	K5HJS
Mummery, Ken	K6RLA
Wagoner, Darryl	WA1GON
Kilpatrick, Glenn	WB5L
Johnston, Devon	WD5WD
Whittlesey, Marc	WØKYZ

I will be contacting these members to see about scheduling the testing sessions. From ARRL:

### **VE Team Liaison**

Once the VE Team has lined up examiners for its next session, the team designates one of its VEs to serve as VE Team Liaison. This position is important. The Team Liaison is the one VE to whom the ARRL/VEC will send the confidential test materials for a particular exam session, and the VE is held directly responsible for the security of the test materials during the time that they are in his or her possession. In most cases, the Team Liaison is typically the only VE the VEC communicates with, before and after the session.

### **VE Team Contact Person**

The person who fills this high-profile position is the VE program's local contact with the general public, ham and non-ham. He or she is responsible for handling the myriad of questions that

candidates will raise before the test session. Most questions tend to be routine, such as "What time is the session scheduled to begin?" "How do I get to the test site?" or "When is your next session?" The Contact Person also would typically accept NCVET Form 605 applications and test fees from those candidates who pre-register.

Anyone, accredited or not, or even licensed or not, is eligible to serve as the Contact Person for your team. Although not legally required to do so, many teams prefer to assign the task to a licensed radio amateur who is familiar with licensing requirements, testing procedures and the Amateur Radio service in general. The team's choice is important--the Contact Person is your team's and Amateur Radio's face to the general public. Choose your Contact Person with care. Many teams choose to have their Contact Person also be their Team Liaison with the ARRL/VEC.

De Glenn, WB5L

**18 Members & Guests present on 6/1/2017:**

1. K5XK – Ron Evans, Secretary (BV)	13. KG5ANT – Frank Majdan (BV)
2. K5QBX – Fred Lemley, Repeater Trustee (BV)	14. W0KYZ – Marc Whittlesey (BV)
3. K5SAW – Steve Werner, Club Tech Ofcr (BV)	15. K5HJS – Harold Sobotka (Rogers)
4. K6RLA – Ken Mummery, President (BV)	16. KG5MCF – Jack Fellenzer, Club PIO (BV)
5. KE6UWB – Tom Carroll (BV)	17. K4PPL – Bob Flickinger, New Member (BV), and not present, W1DRP - (Terry Arnold, BV), New Member
6. KK6LNC – Jeffers Dodge, (Btnvl)	
7. AD6OQ – Mal LaMotte-Kerr (BV)	
8. AC5LX – Bob McIntire (BV)	
9. WB5L – Glenn Kilpatrick (BV)	
10. KF5ZIM – Gregg Doty, (Rogers)	
11. KE6UWB – Tom Carroll & XYL Alice (BV)	
12. KF5ZIM – Greg Doty, (Rogers)	

**The next BVRC meeting will be: *Thursday, July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017.***