

# THE SIGNAL

*Saluting the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the  
Apollo 11 moonlanding – July 20, 1969 –  
when man first set foot upon the Moon*

Newsletter of the  
Bella Vista Radio Club



**VOL. 2, NO. 4 – JULY 2019**



Instagram

Monthly Meetings: 1<sup>st</sup> Thursdays @ 7 p.m., Highland Christian Church, 1500 Forest Hills Blvd, Bella Vista  
Club Call: N5BVA • Repeater: 147.255 +offset, pl 162.2 • Website: [www.bellavistaradioclub.org](http://www.bellavistaradioclub.org)

## **WEEKLY NETS:**

3820 kHz Roundtable - Sundays @ 4 pm

147.255 Repeater Net - Wednesdays @ 8 pm

Wide Area Net - Wednesdays @ 9 pm on the N5UFO NWA Linked Repeater System

## **In This Issue**

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- ✱ ARKANSAS QSO PARTY SUMMARY
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- ✱ VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR ANNUAL ARKANSAS TOUR-DE-CURE
- ✱ SPECIAL BVRC FIELD DAY STORY !!!!! (SEPARATE ATTACHMENT)

***BVRC Officers:*****PRESIDENT****Glenn Kilpatrick – WB5L****VICE – PRESIDENT****Chris Deibler – KG5SZQ****SECRETARY****Wayne Patton – K5UNX****TREASURER****Marc Whittlesey – WØKYZ****TECHNICAL OFFICER****Steve Werner – K5SAW****REPEATER / CLUB CALL TRUSTEE****Fred Lemley – K5QBX*****Appointed Positions:*****PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER****MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR****Ron Evans – K5XK****EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS****Paul Blomgren – KC7DQY****HAM 101****Gregg Doty – KF5ZIM****V E TESTING****Don Cooper -KC7DC****2-METER NET COORDINATOR****Chris Diebler – KG5SZQ****SOCIAL MEDIA COORDINATOR****Sheila Katz****NEWSLETTER EDITOR****Don Banta – K5DB****NEXT BVRC MONTHLY MEETING****THURSDAY - JULY 11, 2019 - 7 PM****HIGHLAND CHRISTIAN CHURCH****1500 FOREST HILLS BLVD.****BELLA VISTA, AR*****JULY PROGRAM:******Lightning !!!***

**ATTENTION!!! – Due to Independence Day falling on the first Thursday of July, the BVRC July meeting will be held on the SECOND THURSDAY, JULY 11.**

A veteran and experienced operator, known to many, and a dear friend – Stan Ross, K5VR – will host our July 2019 program. Stan will be sharing on the important topic of LIGHTENING as well as relating the direct strike to his home. Don't miss this informative program! C U July 11!



# DX 101

## Bill Kennamer Conducts Excellent DX Program At June Meeting

A super June program was given by Bill – K5FUV on Thursday evening, June 6. Newcomers were given some super information during the program entitled DX101, on how to work (and have fun working) DX. Bill brought along a handout that all attending could take home with them for “homework” (hi , hi). Bill is a veteran DXer, currently residing in Fayetteville, and also served at ARRL headquarters for over a decade where he assisted in ARRL’s addition of computer log files for contest and DX reporting (this was the advent of the Cabrillo file), and with Logbook of The World.



Bill said that getting started on the right foot when beginning your DX experience is paramount. Some of the important steps to take are: 1) Sign-up for Logbook of The World, 2) Get a good logging program (DXLAB Suite is free, although there are other good programs, but they require purchasing, 3) Get a good contest logging program (N1MM Logger Plus is the world’s most popular and it’s free), 4) Get involved with FT8-it can bring big payoffs in working new countries (WSJT-X is the most popular software for this mode and it is also...free!), 5) JT Alert facilitates logging and alerts from WSJT-X (also free).

Bill shared that some of the most helpful DX websites are: QRZ.com, eQSL.com, DXWATCH.com, DXSummit.fi, dx-world.net, ClubLog.org, IOTA-world.org, IK3QAR.it, K6TU.net, and DailyDX.com.

**Bill then explained the basic steps in DX operating:**

**1) Find a DX station. 2) Listen to the DX station – If the operator is giving instructions, comply with them. 3) Observe how the DX station is operating (running split, listening up the band, listening down the band). 4) Then, call the DX station.**

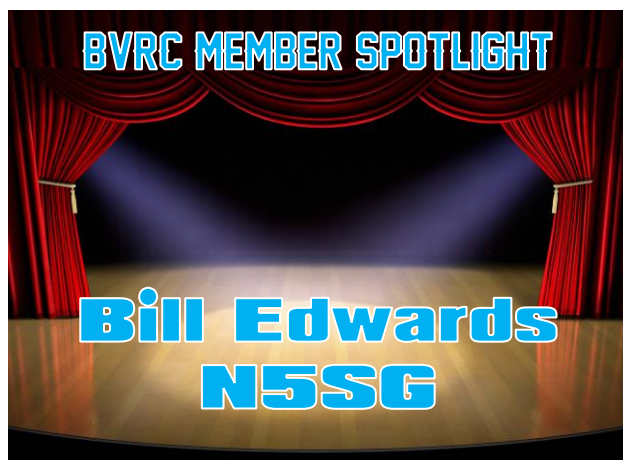
**As far as equipment and antennas go, Bill said a “big” station is helpful, but is not essential. A lot of DX can be worked with 100 watts.**

**After you’ve accumulated 100 different entities, you can then apply for DX awards and endorsements: DXCC, WAC, WAZ, IOTA, etc. Thanks for a great program, Bill! We appreciate you bringing your vast but easy-to-understand knowledge and DX material to BVRC!!!**



**Bill Kennamer – K5FUV  
receives the BVRC  
Certificate of Appreciation  
from BVRC President  
Glenn Kilpatrick – WB5L**





This month, THE SIGNAL pays tribute to one of our relatively new members, Bill Edwards – N5SG. Besides being a radio amateur for many years, Bill is also the Mayor of Centerton, and is beginning his 3<sup>rd</sup> term. As Mayor, Bill's responsibilities keep him plenty busy in his position, working for the citizens and serving as CEO for the city and managing all city departments.

Bill has held several previous callsigns: NW5M, KE5RY, N5GVF, and KA2BNW.

Bill actually got started in radio on the CB band. He said he was enjoying CB operation, until one day he attended a summer camp in which one of the instructors had a Swan 500 and he became interested from that point on. Bill tells us, "I was fascinated he could talk all over the world on a dipole antenna."

Bill says his elmer was Steve – WB2NCB, who also was in the Citizens Band world in the beginning.

Bill says his favorite activities within our hobby right now are DMR, and a passion for CW, but he has no antennas currently up and operating.

As you can see from his photo, one of Bill's other past times is playing the steel guitar, from which the suffix of his callsign is derived: November – Five – Steel – Guitar.

Bill currently operates 2-meters with a Kenwood mobile rig, and he operates the local repeaters with handhelds, as well as DMR with a hotspot.

Bill is married to his lovely XYL, Elizabeth, who also holds the callsign KC5GLP.

Bill we are honored to have a veteran radio amateur, a dedicated public servant, and a talented musician such as yourself in BVRC!!!

# BVRC VE REPORT

June 8, 2019



*Congratulations!*

Albert Skiles – KI5EQU – New General!!!

Addam Hardy – KI5EWV – New General!!!

Caleb Khazoyan – KI5FFK – New Technician AND General!!!

Trey Reynolds III – KI5FFJ – New Technician!!!

*Test sessions are conducted each 2nd Saturday of the month, 2 pm, at the Highland Christian Church in Bella Vista*

*Help promote the availability of the Club's monthly test sessions.  
Tell your friends and acquaintances!*

## New BVRC Members!!!

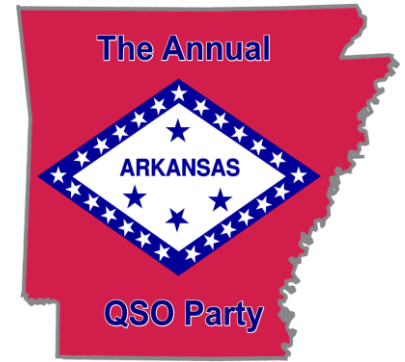


**RYAN MCGUFFIN – KW5ARC – ROGERS**

**ADDAM HARDY – KI5EWV – ROGERS**

**JONATHAN GEORGE – KI5FAO – BENTONVILLE**

# 2019 Arkansas QSO Party Summary



Even with very less than desirable conditions [again] this year, the ARQP experienced another year of continued success. 26 records were broken, with many new faces and states that we have not had participate in years past. 47 out of 50 states submitted log entries this year – a new record.

Another record was broken with 189 log entries received, up from 170 last year. Along with the 47 states, we had 3 Canadian provinces represented as well as 2 DX entities.

Our Arkansas fixed, mobile, and portable stations did a great job in activating 63 of Arkansas' 75 counties. *A HUGE THANKS TO ALL IN-STATERS!*

We also received numerous comments on how much fun many participants had, both in-state and out-of-state...which is what the ARQP is all about.

BVRC made a stellar showing in this year's event as N5BVA served as a Co-Bonus Station – their first time. N5BVA tallied 461 contacts, also a new record for a Bonus Station! Several club members also participated as fixed stations, mobile stations, and manning the other Co-Bonus station, KE5XX. GREAT JOB BVRC!!!



Don Banta – K5DB & Arkansas QSO Party Chair, presents BVRC President Glenn Kilpatrick – WB5L with the 2019 ARQP Bonus Station award at the BVRC June meeting.

Running mobile in the ARQP and finding county lines to operate from, can lead you to back roads but beautiful scenery, as experienced by Brian & Gregg Doty, N5VSD & KF5ZIM !





**Congratulations,  
new BVRC appointed officers!!!**

**New Emergency Communications Coordinator  
Paul Blomgren – KC7DQY**

**New VE Liaison  
Don Cooper – KC7DC**

***Best Wishes In  
in your new positions !***

## **HELP IS JUST A 'CQ' AWAY**

**BY BVRC VICE-PRESIDENT  
CHRIS DEIBLER – KG5SZQ**

Here is another case of ham radio bringing us closer together.....

On May 29, a tornado struck Canton TX. I have some family that lives in the area. So, once we heard the news, all of us in Bella Vista were trying to check-in with family there.

By 8:00 pm all but one had been found and reported to be OK. But we still had one MIA. During the BVRC 8pm Tuesday night net, I had a "ham radio light bulb moment". Not knowing the procedure to conduct a welfare check in that area, I called-out to the net and Glenn – WB5L responded with info on a Texas net on 75-meters, 3.873 kHz.

So, firing up the Kenwood TS-520. I gave a good old CQ for Canton, TX. After many tries with no answer, I moved down several kHz, and heard Rusty – WK5R. I told him my dilemma, and that I was looking for a health & welfare check on a family member. In giving him the address, it turned-out that they are the same road as his just 35 miles apart!!! Rusty advised me that he could not go out to make a personal check, but that he did know the area and assured me that they may be without phone service, but that they were completely clear and outside of the tornado damage area. This was very settling to all of us in Bella Vista. How about amateur radio?!

*HELP IS JUST A CQ AWAY.....*





**BVRC**

## **MEMBERS' CORNER**

**FROM RON — K5XK  
BVRC MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR**

**KG5SEI** – Andy is planning a UHF repeater to serve western Benton County, sporting the Club callsign, N5BVA. Plans are to make it D-Star capable.

**KW5ARC** – Ryan (ex-K5UME) reminds the club that Jon – K5DVT has linked the NWA Link System into Broadcastify. This now allows members without a UHF or dual-band radio to at least monitor the Club's "Wide Area Net" on Wednesdays at 9 p.m.

**KC7DC** – Don is taking over the reins as BVRC ARRL Volunteer Examiner Liaison from Glenn – WB5L.

**K5FWM** – Frank (ex-KG5ANT) has moved to Texas to be closer to harmonics.

**WØJLY** – Bill recently replied to Bob/WBØAUQ's Saturday morning coffee reminder indicating he enjoyed breakfast meetings with ham buddies for decades, but seldom leaves his QTH now. On the topic of Field Day, Bill still remembers his 1st FD—in 1940!

**K5DB** – This year was Don's 17th year to organize the Arkansas QSO Party. Thanks, 'DB! Not only does Don promote, tabulate and administer our statewide QSO party, he also operates 'HF mobile' throughout many of the State's rarest & most distant counties.

**K5SAW** – Steve & Jill are settling into 'new digs' in the western Bella Vista Highlands. Also, from K5SAW – Ham Radio to the rescue! During a nearby lightning event, which left WØJLY without phone and internet service, Bill used his 2 Meter gear to call for assistance via the BVRC Repeater.

**NM5AB** – Noel attended Ham-Com in Plano and brought home a shiny new ICOM IC-7300.

**W5JAY** – Jay is enjoying a new Elecraft KX-3 transceiver ordered at Dayton Hamvention.

**N5LML** – Randy has For Sale an ICOM IC-7100 and Kenwood TS-2000 at attractive prices!

**KØETA** – New Call of Sheila Katz, ex-KEØVGM.

**K9DPT** – Jeremy (ex-KCØSYN) has wasted no time after upgrading to his General class license; he is enjoying operating with new band privileges on 40 Meters, using a YAESU FT-897.

**W5XNA** – Tom has retired...again, recently announcing "After a great 17-year adventure in the elementary classroom, I have decided to spend time for my XYL and the world's best hobby." Prior to his public school tenure, Tom retired as a Captain in the Chicago Police Department, after 25 years. Congratulations, Tom!

**KEØQFO** – “What goes around...” Upon learning that Alan is a ham at a garage sale in Pea Ridge, a lady presented him with vintage copy of the 1965 ARRL VHF Handbook. The inscription identified the previous owner as former BVRC member Harold Plunk, K5GBF, who moved to Florida years ago.

**K5GO** – ARRL’s ‘National Contest Journal’ featured Stan in its March-April issue. Stan is widely recognized as a world-class contester, who enjoys operating as ZF9CW from his Cayman Brac QTH, the smallest and eastern-most of the three Cayman Islands.

**W5KI, KCØDX, W5JAY** – Steve, Ed & Jay are among those who had a blast working coast-to-coast openings during the June ARRL VHF Contest, on the 6-Meter Magic Band.

**KF5ZIM** – Congrats to Gregg, who completed Level 1 of the CW Academy and has transitioned into a new Level 2 ‘prep class.’ Gregg has added two new Vibroplex code ‘paddles’ to his collection.

**K5UNX** – A former ‘Level 1’ CW Academy graduate, Wayne has been ‘brushing up’ on his code skills, preparing to step-up to ‘Level 2’ of the Academy shortly.

## HELP NEEDED!

The annual Arkansas Tour de Cure bicycle race for the American Diabetes Association will occur on August 3 in Bentonville. Communication volunteers are needed badly. This is one of the largest bicycle races in the state and there are still many vacancies to fill for the emergency communications portion of this event. If you are interested, contact Paul Blomgren – KC7DQY. Send Paul an e-mail at: [KC7DQY@yahoo.com](mailto:KC7DQY@yahoo.com)

## New BVRC Cap Now Available!



Bella Vista Radio Club now has a handsome hat at a very affordable price! The cap is quality khaki, comes with the BVRC logo on the front, and your callsign embroidered on the side. \$15 each. Order now!

For cap ordering information, contact:

**Don Banta – K5DB**  
**3407 Diana St.**  
**Springdale, AR 72764**  
 Or send Don an e-mail at:  
[arsk5db@gmail.com](mailto:arsk5db@gmail.com)

## BVRC CLUB ACCESSORIES!



*Show you're a proud  
BVRC member with:*

- Key Tags
- Badges
- Desk Name Plates
- Mouse pads
- Ceramic Mugs
- White & US Flag License Plates

To order your personalized club product, click [here](#) !

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