

THE



SIGNAL



Newsletter of the Bella Vista Radio Club



March 2022

Monthly Meetings: 1st Thursdays @ 7 p.m., Golden Corral, Rogers
2605 Pleasant Crossing Dr. (I-49, Exit 81)

Club Call: N5BVA • Repeater: 147.255 +offset, pl 162.2

Website: www.bellavistaradioclub.org

WEEKLY NETS:

- 3.830 kHz Roundtable - Sundays @ 4 pm
- 147.255 BVRC Weekly Net - Wednesdays @ 8 pm
- Wide Area Net - Wednesdays @ 9 pm on the
NWA Skywarn Link System
 - Bentonville – 146.865, -offset, pl 103.5
 - Fayetteville – 147.315, +offset, pl 97.4
 - Huntsville – 443.625, +offset, pl 97.4
 - Green Forest – 146.310, -offset, pl 103.5



BELLA VISTA RADIO CLUB HAS NEW HOME FOR MONTHLY MEETINGS!

The Executive Board of Directors of the Bella Vista Radio Club are pleased to announce the securement of a new Club meeting site and facility:



**Arkansas Law Enforcement Training Academy
3424 S. Downum Rd.
Springdale, AR 72762**

Our use of this new meeting venue goes into effect *immediately*, and we will be convening the March meeting of BVRC at the new ALETA facility. *DO NOT GO TO GOLDEN CORRAL IN ROGERS!!! – WE WILL NO LONGER BE USING THAT LOCATION!!!*

See next pages, for more information on the new meeting facility! (Info is also on the BVRC Website!)



ALETA building – Site of all future BVRC meetings



**Sign in front of ALETA
(Arkansas Law Enforcement
Training Academy) building**



**Breakroom – Coffee & snacks station for
BVRC meetings**



**Small classroom, seats around 35 – can be
used for overflow meeting room for largely
attended meetings; complete with projection
system and 75" HDTV**

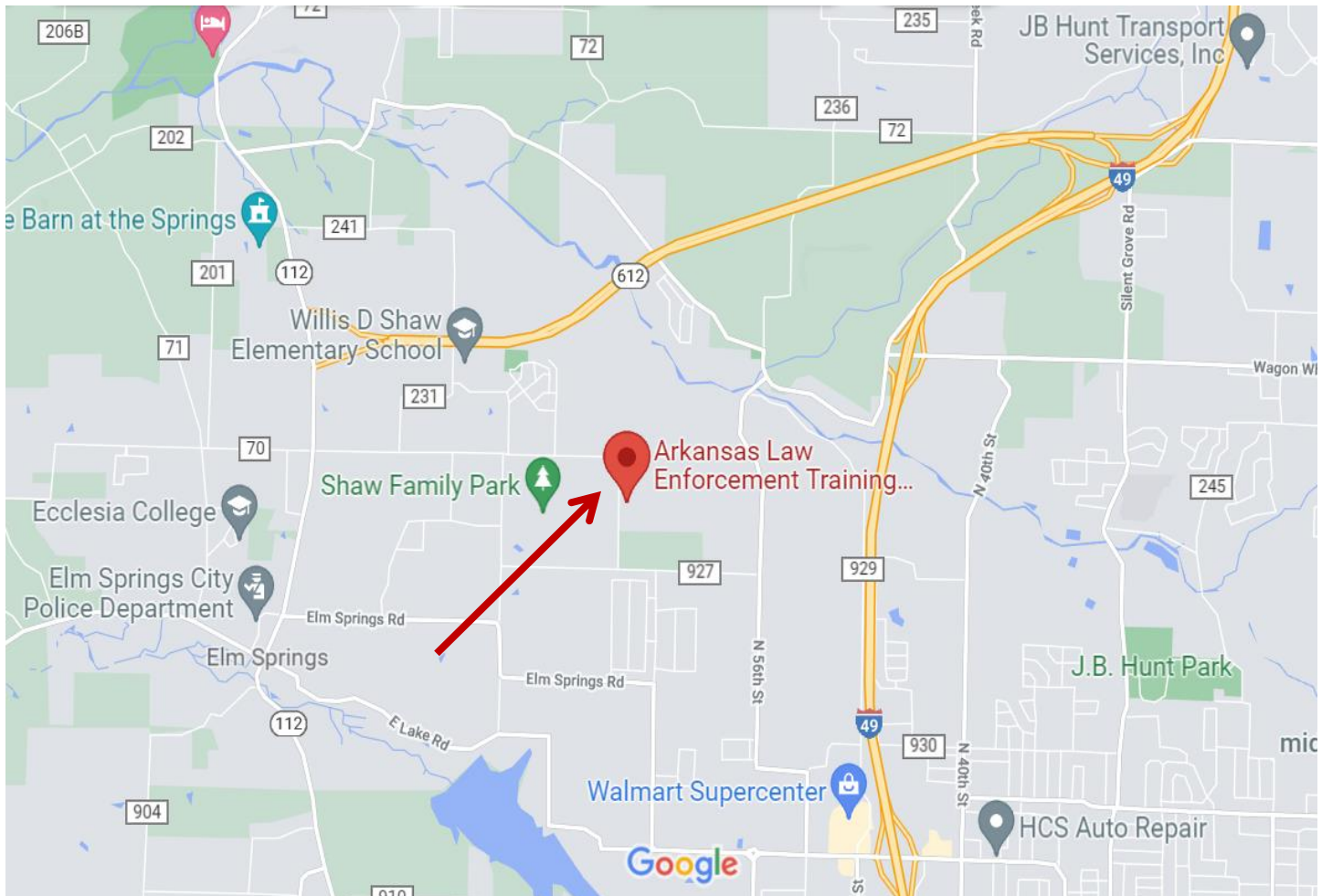


**Large classroom which will
be the main meeting room –
can seat up to 75 persons
with overflow chairs.
Complete with projection
system, Promethian-type
board, and two 75" HDTVs**

An astronomical word of THANKS to Gregg Harrison – KF5WAP, ALETA certified trainer and staff member, for making this outstanding and spectacular meeting site available. Gregg is also a former Springdale PD officer. This is definitely a boon and a blessing for BVRC.

Please see below for a Google map of the location of the ALETA complex....the address for your GPS to navigate to the new meeting site is:

3424 S. Downum Road, Springdale.



Written directions (if needed) to the new BVRC meeting venue at ALETA:

From the north: Southbound on I-49, take Exit 77 (exit for AR-612). Follow AR-612 freeway to the end of freeway, which will be AR-112. At end of offramp turn left, crossover AR-612, and go south on AR-112. Then, go about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile and take first available left onto Carrie Smith Road. Then, stay straight (east) on Carrie Smith, and stay straight for about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles, and road will then zig and zag (**SLOW DOWN! SHARP CURVES!**), and change names to Downum Road. You will now be going south. Continue for about 500 feet and ALETA building will be on your left. (See sign in front of bldg.)

From the south: Northbound on I-49, take Exit 73 (Elm Springs Road exit). At end of offramp, turn left. You will cross over I-49 and see McDonald's and Wal-Mart Supercenter on your right and Macadoodles on your left. Continue straight (west) on Elm Springs Road. You will then go about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles and Elm Springs Road will make a sharp curve to the right (north). Then, go to the next curve – which will curve left – but at this curve do not follow it to the left, but veer off Elm Springs road to the right. You will see a small blue sign “Arkansas Law Enforcement Training Academy ↑”. You will now be on Pinkley Road. Stay straight on Pinkley Road for about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile to stop sign. Turn left (this is County Line Road), and go about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile and take the next available right – Downum Road. Proceed north on Downum Road for about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile, and ALETA building will be on the right. (See sign in front of bldg.)

NEXT BVRC MONTHLY MEETING

Thursday, March 3, 2022 @ 7pm
Arkansas Law Enforcement Training Center
3424 S. Downum Road
Springdale, AR
(If southbound on I-49, take Exit 77)
(If northbound on I-49, take Exit 73)

MARCH MEETING INFORMATION

BVRC Vice-President Don Banta – K5DB, will take the podium for our March meeting, with a topic that will especially introduce another interesting and exciting aspect of amateur radio to our newcomers to the hobby, “Competitive Operating 101”.

Don was first licensed in 1969 when he acquired his novice license with the callsign WN5ZKE. He has been a ham for 52 years, and this topic has been one of his ham passions for decades.

Competitive operating has taken him to many places and allowed him to form camaraderie with many wonderful ham operators over the years, which he will share with you. You will find out that competitive operating is not just contesting...it also is competing with yourself to achieve new radio goals, develop efficient procedures to facilitate EmComm and Public Service operating skills, and make an overall better quality operator out of you.

Looking forward to seeing you there! **Come see the new meeting site!**

BURC MEMBERS, DON'T FORGET TO GET YOUR BURC GEAR & ACCESSORIES FROM *EMBROIDERED MEMORIES*

Our BVRC President Tom-W5XNA recently received his order for a BVRC polo shirt from John-W5HB at Embroidered Memories.

John and his wife, Kim – KD5TVX, own and operate Embroidered Memories which embroiders and prints products for individuals, businesses, clubs, schools, sports teams, and various organizations all over the world. They also have personalized products that ship every day.



They can help you with a plethora of neat BVRC and amateur radio items: callsign hats and visors, EmComm and Skywarn hats and visors, shirts, callsign etched glass blocks, metal tumblers, coffee mugs, amateur radio patches, license plates, and many other neat products.

If you especially haven't ordered a BVRC name badge (great for BVRC meetings so other members can get to know you better, and other events such as hamfests, conventions, etc. as a representative of BVRC), now's the time to check-out the website and place your order!

You can access the website by clicking [here](#).

BUY – SELL – TRADE



DON'T FORGET, IF YOU HAVE ANY RADIO RELATED ITEMS THAT YOU ARE LOOKING FOR, LOOKING TO PURCHASE, ITEMS FOR SALE, OR PERHAPS MAKE A TRADE, SEND YOUR INFORMATION TO DON-K5DB FOR INCLUSION IN THE 'EQUIPMENT CORNER' COLUMN OF THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE SIGNAL. SEND AN E-MAIL WITH YOUR INFORMATION TO: arsk5db@gmail.com.

BVRC OFFICERS

President

Tom Northfell - W5XNA
w5xna@arri.net

Vice – President

Don Banta - K5DB
arsk5db@gmail.com

Secretary

Wayne Patton - K5UNX
k5unx@arri.net

Treasurer

Marc Whittlesey - WØKYZ
almarc11@yahoo.com

Public Information Officer

Open

Technical Officer

Tem Moore - N5KWL
temmoore@gmail.com

Repeater/Club Call Trustee

Glenn Kilpatrick - WB5L
wb5l@arri.net

APPOINTED OFFICERS

VE Testing

Don Cooper - KC7DC
don_c@hotmail.com

Elmer 9-1-1

Vinson Carter - WV5C
vinsoncarter@gmail.com

2-Meter Net Coordinator

Chris Deibler - KG5SZQ
chris52@cox.net

Webmaster

Glenn Kilpatrick - WB5L
wb5l@arri.net

Social Media Coordinator

Clara Orvin - KG5HTX
orvinkids@gmail.com

EmComm Chair

Open

Public Information Officer

Open

Newsletter Editor

Don Banta - K5DB
arsk5db@gmail.com



It is with great regret that we report the passing of Sheila Katz – KØETA. Sheila, along with her husband Alan – KEØQFO, joined BVRC several years ago and both became an integral part of our Club in a very short amount of time. Sheila served as BVRC Social Media Coordinator for a time, helped with refreshments at Club meetings, and was our Food and Refreshment Coordinator for the 2019 BVRC Field Day in which she did a stellar job. Sheila acquired her Technician license just prior to Field Day of that year, being issued her original callsign of KEØVQM. She later changed to vanity callsign KØETA. Sheila frequented our Club's VHF/UHF nets quite regularly, and it was always a pleasure to hear her check-in. She always had a cheery disposition and was always willing to help the Club in whatever capacity she could. We will miss her considerably, and her memory will always remain with all of us who knew her. We salute you, Sheila. Alan has also performed many important behind-the-scenes tasks for many BVRC events, and is a past net controller for the BVRC 2-meter net. His labors have been very appreciated! Our thoughts and prayers are with Alan during this time.



Have you recently received a rare or interesting QSL card or a new radio award to share? Or, do you just have a cool photo (ham radio related) or some comments to share with other club members? Maybe you have acquired a new piece of equipment, or constructed a new antenna? Taken a trip focused around ham radio to share an amateur radio related experience? Why not write an article for The Signal? The article can be short or long, simple or elaborate. Please include pictures! As The Signal editor, I particularly look forward to putting a new issue together when I have material submitted by our Club members! Hope to hear from you soon & 73! (Send it in!)

E-mail: arsk5db@gmail.com

Regular mail: Don Banta, K5DB
3407 Diana Street
Springdale, AR 72764

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT



We are deeply saddened at the sudden passing of BVRC member Sheila Katz – KØETA and XYL of Alan – KEØQFO. Sheila was a joy to know and will be dearly missed. Please keep Alan in your thoughts and prayers at this very difficult time.

For those who have recently joined BVRC or renewed for 2022 – thanks for your membership! If you have not already done so, I hope that you consider renewing your membership for another year. Newer members who joined BVRC after July 1, 2021 have dues paid credited for 2022. Dues three months in arrears will result in temporary loss of membership, voting privileges, and mailings.

Congratulations to the many new amateur radio operators in the area. Several others upgraded their licenses. My thanks to Don Cooper KC7DC (BVRC VE Coordinator) and the VEs at both locations (Bella Vista and Springdale). VFB!

QST QST QST – ARRL 2022 FIELD DAY June 24-26, 2022 – Metfield Skills Park, Bella Vista. You are invited to be an active part of this year's Field Day. We NEED you! Except for the deluge during the night, our 2021 Field Day was a lot of fun and very successful. Let's make this year even better!

Also, we are still searching for a permanent meeting location. The meetings at the Golden Corral were always viewed as a temporary "band-aid." Hopefully, we will secure an ideal site soon.

Last, we still have a need for the following: EmComm coordinator, public information officer, Field Day committee, and hospitality committee.

I hope to see many of you at the *Green Country Hamfest* in Claremore, OK April 8-9, 2022.

Your comments and suggestions are always welcome, valued, and appreciated. Contact me at w5xna@arrl.net or any other club officers. The Bella Vista Radio Club exists to serve amateur radio operators and the community.

73 and tn timer for your membership!

Tom, W5XNA

BVRC VE REPORT

From Don Cooper – KC7DC – BVRC VE Chair
February 12, 2022



Congratulations!

**Dale Locander, Bella Vista – KI5TSF
New Technician!**

**Alan Katz, Washburn, MO – KEØQFO
Extra Class Upgrade!**

**Dana Hill, Bella Vista – W5DGH
Upgrade from Tech to Extra!!!**

**Robert Hill, Bella Vista – K5NZV
New Extra Class Upgrade!**

**James Knowles, Bentonville – KI5TSG
New General!**

**Linda Churchill, Fayetteville – KI5TRR
New Technician!**

**Richard Churchill, Fayetteville – KI5TRS
New General!**

**David Mersky, Springdale – KI5TRT
New Technician!**

**Jason Tullis, Prairie Grove – KI5TRU
New Technician!**

***Test sessions are conducted each 2nd Saturday of the month, 2 pm, at
Bella Vista Fire Station #1 in Bella Vista & Shiloh Museum in Springdale***

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

WELCOME

NEW BVRC MEMBERS!!!

Sharron Edmondson – KC5SKY – Jay, OK
 Andy French – KI5TGZ – Decatur
 Dave Mersky – KI5TRT - Springdale



BVRC FIELD DAY COORDINATOR NEEDED

BVRC IS IN DIRE NEED OF SOMEONE IN OUR LARGE MEMBERSHIP TO HELP THE CLUB IN THE POSITION OF BELLA VISTA RADIO CLUB FIELD DAY CHAIRPERSON. OUR PAST FD COORDINATORS HAVE BEEN FRED LEMLEY-K5QBX, DON BANTA-K5DB, AND TOM NORTHFELL-W5XNA. IT WOULD BE REALLY GREAT IF SOMEONE NEW WOULD STEP FORWARD AND HELP

WITH THIS VERY IMPORTANT, BUT FUN AND REWARDING, POSITION AS FIELD DAY IS THE LARGEST CLUB EVENT OF THE YEAR.

THE LOGISTICS INVOLVED ARE, OF COURSE, NUMEROUS, BUT NOT IMPOSSIBLE: ORGANIZE AND OVERSEE INDIVIDUAL MODE STATIONS (SSB, CW, DIGITAL), COORDINATING TRANSPORTATION OF EQUIPMENT TO AND FROM THE FD SITE AT METFIELD PARK IN BELLA VISTA, SECURING GENERATORS (USUALLY TWO) FOR THE DURATION OF THE EVENT, SOLICIT AND SECURE A FOOD COORDINATOR, APPOINT SOMEONE WITH SCHEDULING MEDIA AND ELECTED OFFICIAL VISITS, AND PROVIDE OVERALL LEADERSHIP AND DECISION MAKING DURING THE COURSE OF THE EVENT.

THE FIELD DAY COORDINATOR ROLE IS CONSIDERABLE, BUT YOU WILL FIND THAT FOR SUCH A SPECIAL EVENT AS FIELD DAY, THERE ARE MANY CLUB MEMBERS WHO ARE MORE THAN WILLING TO LEND A HELPING HAND. A 'FIELD DAY PLANNER' SPREADSHEET IS ALSO AVAILABLE TO HELP YOU DELEGATE THE VARIOUS DUTIES.

IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN FILLING THIS ROLE, PLEASE CONTACT TOM-W5XNA OR DON-K5DB AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. FIELD DAY (4TH WEEKEND IN JUNE) WILL BE HERE BEFORE YOU KNOW IT. THANKS.



TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE BELLA VISTA RADIO CLUB:

Are you an ARRL Member?

Why join the 160,000 members of ARRL?

BVRC is an American Radio Relay League affiliated club with over half of the membership as members of the ARRL. However, we also have members who have not joined. The yearly membership fee for the ARRL is \$49.00. This membership includes a subscription to QST, the icon publication of amateur radio, which each month includes great articles about all facets of our hobby.

Along with QST coming to your mailbox each month, as an ARRL member you will enjoy these great benefits:

- **ON THE AIR** – A digital subscription that is also available to members. On The Air is geared to new hams coming into the hobby with loads of articles to help get them started on the right foot.
- **ARCHIVE and PERIODICAL SEARCH** – Members have access to search for QST articles 1915-2011, and indexes for ARRL's QEX, NCJ, and Ham Radio publications.
- **FREE LICENSE RENEWAL** – When it comes time to renew or modify your license, ARRL will process your renewal/modification (if you wish to forego doing it yourself via the FCC Universal Licensing System) for free as a member.
- **OUTGOING QSL SERVICE** – If the need arises for you to exchange QSL cards with a foreign ham, as a member, ARRL can serve as your mail carrier and handle your overseas QSLing chores. *The savings in postage you accumulate through this service alone can pay your membership dues many times over.*
- **YOUR LEGAL ADVOCATE** - ARRL supports legislation in Washington, D.C. that preserves and protects access to existing amateur radio frequencies as a natural resource for the enjoyment of all hams. As a member, you contribute to the efforts to preserve our privileges.
- **MANY OTHER BENEFITS** – When you join ARRL you can avail yourself to becoming involved in a plethora of other activities that ARRL offers such as: continuing education, regulatory information branch, public relations, ARRL Field Organization, ARRL sponsored contests, operating awards, ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Service), hamfests and conventions, the VEC (Volunteer Examiner Coordinator) Program, and many other ARRL member features.

If you haven't joined yet, give it a try with a year's membership. You'll be glad you did. Ask any of the BVRC members who are also ARRL members! To see all the benefits of being an ARRL member, and to apply for membership, use this link:

<http://www.arrl.org/membership> .

Quirious QSLs

Quirious QSLs is a monthly feature column of the signal. Each month, a BVRC member shares a couple of their QSL cards that are memorable or denote a special memory to them.

If you would like to share a couple of your QSLs and accompanying story with the rest of the BVRC members, send a .jpg file of your card, along with a short story to Don-K5DB at: arsk5db@gmail.com

For this month, BVRC President Tom Northfell has submitted two captivating QSLs that were also ATNOs (All-Time New Ones) for him:



FOØ / TX, Marquesas Islands – This DXpedition was extra thrilling to work, as Arkansas' own Bill Priakos – W5SJ from Fort Smith (3rd from the left and who gave a great program for us in January 2019) was on the team. The islands constitute a group of around 10 islands in the southern Pacific Ocean. They are under the sovereignty of France and the total population is near 10,000. They are located about 1,370 miles from Tahiti. The average yearly high there is around 85° and the average low is around 75°. Tom was very excited when he heard them acknowledge his call sign around 2353 UTC on Nov. 10, 2019.

VP6, Pitcairn Island – This is one of the most remote islands to travel to on the planet. Only a lone supply ship visits the island about every two weeks and there are only 47 inhabitants that reside there (as of 2021). They are biracial people that are the descendants of the nine Bounty mutineers and a handful of Tahitian consorts from Tahiti that fled there and hid from the British Royal Navy, after they commandeered the ship in 1789. The island is the only island in the Pacific Ocean owned by Great Britain. Tom worked the 2019 DXpedition that were there for about two weeks on Oct. 31, 2019, on 17-meters. (Nice Halloween present.)



BVRC NEEDS THREE VOLUNTEERS FOR OPEN CHAIR POSITIONS

Bella Vista Radio Club is submitting a call-out for anyone in the Club who would like to contribute to our organization and our hobby in an off-air function regarding three important positions: Public Information Officer, Emergency Communications Chairperson, and Social Media Coordinator.

Ham radio can be very rewarding while working the bands, but it is also rewarding while serving off the air in helping the Club and its members.

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

The primary responsibility of the PIO is to work with local news media to keep them advised and updated with various Club activities. This is normally limited to local and area newspapers (weeklies, and the NWA Democrat-Gazette), but expanded to include radio and television for our annual ARRL Field Day, and other major or unusual events.

This includes monthly meetings, special events, special speakers or projects, and especially the Club's participation in the annual ARRL Field Day. The PIO writes and distributes news releases in advance of meetings and events, and for events in which no news coverage is received, the PIO

may prepare follow-up summaries with digital photos of the event. Whenever the news media does cover Club meetings or events, the PIO serves as the Club's primary spokesperson, and/or arranges with a Club officer to be interviewed, make suggestions for photography or interview topics.

Ideally, the PIO should possess above grammar, spelling and writing skills, and capable of occasionally preparing multi-media programs and speaking to community clubs and organizations.

If you would like to meet members of the NW Arkansas TV and newspaper community along with many operators in our NW Arkansas populace, and you possess nominal speaking and article composing skill, this position is for you. Our past PIOs have had a ball in serving in this position, as it is WELL worthwhile in the fun and enjoyment it entails.

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION CHAIRPERSON

This position is geared for ham operators who enjoy preparing, and showing others how to

prepare, to set-up and operate a portable station in the event of a tornado, flood, or earthquake in our area. EmComm Chairperson duties would include emergency station set-up and operation, traffic handling, knowledge of VHF/UHF repeater locations and operation, the possible assistance in the area of communication for local foot and bicycle races, and other related areas.

If you think you would like to serve and help other hams in this sphere, please contact any of the Club officers.

SOCIAL MEDIA COORDINATOR

If you're an avid user and enjoyer of Facebook, why not devote some of that time to spreading the word about ham radio on BVRC's Facebook page?

Our current coordinator, Clara-KI5HTX, is about to begin college and will be resigning this spring. So, you could "take the passing of the torch" from her and keep BVRC's social media presence going.

Again, contact any Club officer if you'd like more information in serving in any of these positions. We need you!

ATTENTION NEWCOMER HAMS!

GET READY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SSB ARRL ROOKIE ROUNDUP!!!

The ARRL Rookie Roundup is a contest aimed at amateurs who have been licensed for three years or less. This six-hour event is held three times per year (April for SSB, August for RTTY, and December for CW).

The Rookie Roundup for SSB (microphone) this year is on April 10, 2022.

As we do for each year, several of our BVRC experienced operators will be welcoming you into their shacks to host this event. If you presently do not have HF privileges and/or do not have an HF station, you can still operate from one of the experienced operator's locations and enjoy & learn the fun world of HF! You will also learn the fun of logging contacts. (The experienced operator will be there as a Coach and control operator for you, but they are not allowed to operate or log... YOU will do the operating!)

You will be using a callsign chosen by your control operator, but if your station wins in one of the categories, you will win a certificate with your callsign on it:



If you were first licensed any of the years 2019-2022 – no matter which class of license you hold – you are eligible to participate! Several new BVRC hams have already signed-up for this fun event! *We have only two slots left.*

***Our coaches for this year will be:
Don Cooper-KC7DC-Bella Vista
Glenn Kilpatrick-WB5L-Bella Vista
Mark Whatley-K5XH-Fayetteville
Tom Northfell-W5XNA-Fayetteville
Don Banta-K5DB-Springdale***

If you would like some real ham radio experience and fun, get on the sign-up list today! To sign-up, send an e-mail indicating your interest to participate to:

Don Banta – K5DB
arsk5db@gmail.com

See you April 10!



Any Club members wanting to keep their BVRC memberships current for the coming year, club dues can be paid in person at the monthly meetings, cash or personal check via regular mail to the club treasurer Marc-WØKYZ, or via PayPal by using Marc's e-mail address: almarc11@yahoo.com.

Dues should be paid by March 31.

Also remember that BVRC memberships are "family memberships," to include all other licensed family members living under the same roof, at no additional charge.

And just recently approved by the board of officers, BVRC lifetime memberships are now available to any ham operator 73 years or older. Just advise Treasurer Marc via e-mail or in person at one of the BVRC meetings that you have reached 73 years of age. From that time forward, your membership to BVRC is free.

If you wish to pay in person at the meeting, please see BVRC Treasurer Marc - WØKYZ to make sure he has you noted on his membership roster when you pay.

Additional information is included on the club membership web pages. For further information, go to this web address:

<https://bellavistaradioclub.org/membership/>

BVRC, along with many other radio clubs, has many opportunities for the Volunteer – Field Day setup and operation, repeater operation, HF operation, contesting, awards pursuit, elmering, emergency communications, public service radio operation, and many other rewarding areas. Ready or not, you are part of a volunteer organization...please consider what that means.

Why Volunteer?

There are many motivations for why folks jump-in to help, even before being begged! You'll have to find your own motivation because using someone else's just won't last as long. Here are some advantages and enjoyments about being a volunteer:

1) You will gain something

By definition, volunteer work is unpaid, so the rewards you reap will be more emotional and maybe even spiritual. The advantages of volunteering include the opportunity to give back to your organization and feel useful, and to fill-in a gap in your personal life as well as intellectual stimulation and growth.

2) Personal growth

Volunteer work will reveal interests and skills to you that you probably never realized before. You might be pleasantly surprised by discovering that you are good at doing unexpected things. You will grow your confidence with each new challenge tackled and skill learned.

3) You might feel better!

Research studies have shown that volunteering, particularly by older adults, provides real health benefits. Physical activity and a positive outlook can also help reduce blood pressure and keep you from kicking the dog (or cat).

4) Credit for your service

For students and others who need community service hours, volunteer work is a particularly important and necessary commitment of time. Some high schools and colleges even offer class credit for community service hours.

Volunteers are the children of volunteers. Many of us grew up with volunteering. Being a volunteer doesn't just fill a present need, it's an investment in the future of our club and the community. *BVRC needs you in one of the positions mentioned earlier in this issue of The Signal. Please join us in this endeavor to furnish our Club with the best amateur radio experience it can have! Contact any Club officer if you're interested in getting involved in the best ham radio club in NW Arkansas!*

TECH TIPS

By Steve Werner – K5SAW

This month, and for several months following, The Signal is pleased to present numerous articles entitled "Tech Tips" authored by BVRC's own Steve Werner – K5SAW. Steve has been a devoted member of BVRC for many years, is a past Technical Officer of the Club, and a 'par excellence' authority on just about any area of electronics. Please enjoy Steve's articles, as they are guaranteed to be informative and very helpful to you.

Repurposing Old PL-259 Connectors

Ham radio operators will eventually need to replace coax cable or bad coax connectors from the normal wear-and-tear on the antenna system, and the PL-259 connectors are usually trashed because it is usually difficult to re-use them. However, the nut on the old PL-259 connector is worth keeping for many applications in your ham radio hobby. See Figure 1.

The PL-259 nut (coupling shell) has a $\frac{5}{8}$ inch 24 tpi standard thread, and this is the same nut size used in circular microphone connectors and N-Type coax connectors. If you seal up the back end of the PL-259 nut, it will make an excellent connector protector for things like feed throughs, antenna analyzers, microphone jacks, and etc. The back end of the connector can be sealed with a commercial snap-in plastic or metal plug, or it can be plugged with a washer and RTV. See Figure 2.



Figure 1 – Salvaged PL-259 nuts



Figure 2 – The backside of the PL-259 nut sealed with commercially available plugs (i.e. Home Depot / Lowes)



Figure 3 – Antenna Analyzer connector protector



Figure 4 – Antenna Analyzer connector protector

The PL-259 nut can also be cut down with a hack saw for a make-shift jam nut on feed through barrels. See Figure 6.

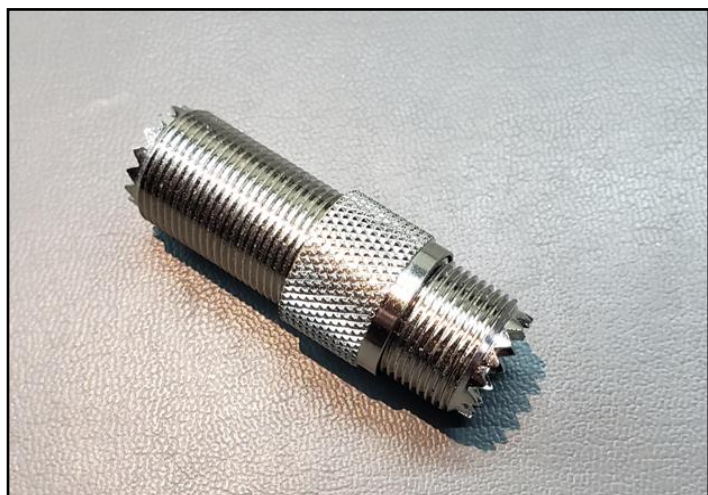


Figure 6 – A PL-259 nut cut down for a make-shift jam nut. The nut can be cut down to whatever length is required for your application.



Figure 5 – Circular microphone connector protection.

Editor's note: Pretty nifty, huh? An excellent first installment, Steve, with more to come! Thank you for all you do for BVRC. – Don, K5DB



ELMER 9-1-1 CAN HELP YOU!!!

This is a former entry from the Elmer Forum on the BVRC website from Scott Branyan – K15DJP (now W5AAJ) :

Kudos to the 911 Elmers!

by K15DJP • Fri Apr 17, 2020 5:04 pm

A couple of them have helped me in getting my CAT control cable settings setup on my radio and also how to use Fox and Hound in the FT8 contest mode.

Nice to have multiple Elmers!

If you need radio help, fill out the Elmer 911 contact forum. I received 4-5 emails in a couple of hours offering help. Each one held a piece of the puzzle to solve my issues.

73 to all, Scott

If you need help with just about any amateur radio issue or problem you're having, follow Scott's advice and click the Elmer 9-1-1 tab, then complete the Elmer 9-1-1 form. You'll get help as quickly as possible from one or more of the 30 Elmers that we have standing by for you! (Thanks for the kind words, Scott!)

OWS HONORS SHILOH MUSEUM AT JANUARY MEETING

Many members of BVRC are also members of the Ozark Wireless Society. The Ozark Wireless Society is mainly comprised of veteran ham operators who have been in the hobby 40+ years, but also includes many newcomers to the hobby and to the club as well. OWS members have a vast knowledge of antennas, operating, and classic radio electronics, although many also incorporate today's ham technology in their operating experience. The meetings are very informal in a cordial, in-person roundtable, where everyone enjoys great ham fellowship and discussions with coffee and snacks always on hand.



**Shiloh Museum of Ozark History
Main Building**



From lower left, clockwise: Rick Pope-KG5MWG, Tom Northfell-W5XNA, San Hutson-K5YY, Chuck Korzendorfer-KM5G, Ron Evans-K5XK, Nick Kennedy-WA5BDU, and Mark Whatley-K5XH.

The Ozark Wireless Society meets each 4th Saturday morning, January thru October (no meetings in Nov. & Dec. in observance of Thanksgiving and Christmas), at the Shiloh Museum of Ozark History, 118 W. Johnson Ave. in Springdale. The meetings start at 10 am. Any and all hams are invited to attend.



The General Store on the museum grounds, built in the 1870's, where OWS meetings convene.

OWS first began in 1994 when the membership was small, and the meetings rotated between founding members' homes. They then met in Tontitown for a short time. Then in 1996, Shiloh Museum provided them with the historical meeting venue they relish to date. OWS currently enjoys a membership of 43 members, although meeting attendance has been down somewhat due to Covid.

The January meeting marked a milestone in the history of the Ozark Wireless Society, as they are beginning their 26th year of meetings at Shiloh Museum. So, on this Saturday morning, they presented the museum with a Certificate of Appreciation for 25 years of enjoying a phenomenal relationship with SMOH. The weekend museum personnel were surprised and very pleased with the presentation.



Certificate presentation, from L-R: San Hutson-K5YY, Mark Whatley-K5XH, Judy Costello SMOH Education Manager, Tom Northfell-W5XNA, and Ron Evans-K5XK. (Photos, K5DB)



FOR SALE: Set of 5 used guy line insulators for sale. They currently sell new for \$8 - \$10 each. Will sell the set for \$25.



If interested, please e-mail me at: arsk5db@gmail.com. — Don, K5DB

WANTED: Nominally priced dual-band transceiver with 50 watt output. Please contact Andy-KI5TGZ at: andyfrench0825@yahoo.com

FOR SALE: LDG AT100ProII Autotuner. Used less than 75 hours. Like new condx. Lists new for around \$260. Avg. selling price on Ebay: \$175-\$230. Will sell for \$150. Contact Don-K5DB at: arsk5db@gmail.com



Would you be interested in presenting a program for an upcoming monthly meeting on a radio related topic? Or, would you like to help arrange and coordinate our monthly programs? Contact TOM-W5XNA at w5xna@arrl.net or Don-K5DB at arsk5db@gmail.com

Women of the Signal Corps

During World War I, it might surprise you to know women were key to Signal Corps communications. Some were proficient in Morse Code; others served the Corps as telephone operators and are the subject of an [interesting story in the Kansas City Star](#).



Many are unaware of the World War I Museum and Memorial in Kansas City, a 5-star attraction, 3-4 hours to our north. The museum has a very active radio club, which memorializes several events throughout the year with their special event call, WW1USA. All licensed amateurs are invited to schedule a time to operate during these activities.

For more information, see:

<https://www.theworldwar.org/>

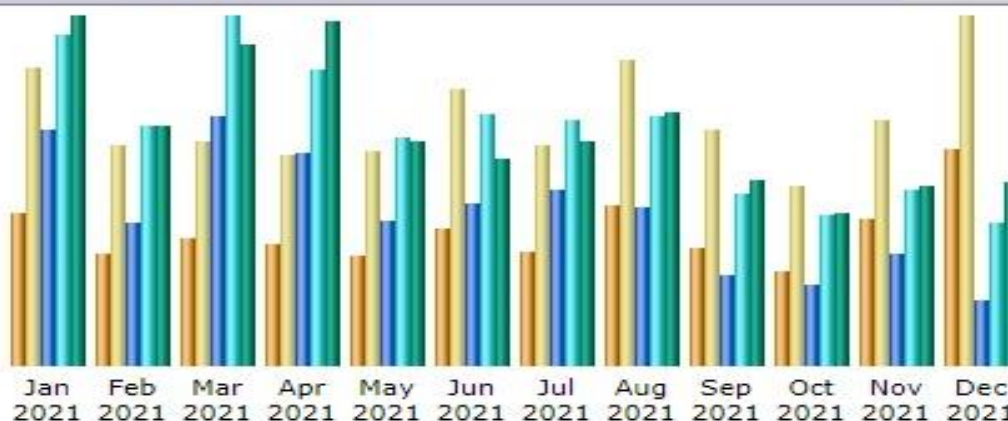
<https://www.qrz.com/db/ww1usa>

<https://www.theworldwar.org/amateurradio>

2021 INCREDIBLE YEAR FOR BVRC WEBSITE

BVRC Webmaster Glenn Kilpatrick – WB5L has provided us with the cumulative statistics for the Club's website for 2021, and they are extraordinary. – As you can see from the data graph below, the website maintained a more or less steady continuity of visitors and unique visitors throughout the year with the highest peaks in January, June, August, and December. The total unique visitors to our website were almost 26,000 and visitors were very close to the 50,000 mark. Nearly a half million pages were viewed, and the website received over $\frac{3}{4}$ of a million hits! This is all reflected in Glenn's hard work to provide the website with ease of navigation, great information, tools, features, and overall aesthetic appeal. **WELL DONE, GLENN!!! WE APPRECIATE ALL YOU DO!!!**

Monthly history



Month	Unique visitors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth
Jan 2021	2,440	4,769	62,739	87,970	4.45 GB
Feb 2021	1,777	3,538	38,124	63,905	3.05 GB
Mar 2021	2,029	3,595	66,431	92,954	4.08 GB
Apr 2021	1,957	3,369	56,393	78,822	4.39 GB
May 2021	1,748	3,430	38,293	60,931	2.85 GB
Jun 2021	2,177	4,435	43,295	66,724	2.64 GB
Jul 2021	1,815	3,538	46,931	65,240	2.85 GB
Aug 2021	2,580	4,903	41,901	66,602	3.22 GB
Sep 2021	1,876	3,788	24,096	45,606	2.36 GB
Oct 2021	1,504	2,887	21,443	39,941	1.93 GB
Nov 2021	2,362	3,944	29,498	46,839	2.29 GB
Dec 2021	3,459	5,596	17,076	38,179	2.34 GB
Total	25,724	47,792	486,220	753,713	36.44 GB

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