



THE SIGNAL

Newsletter of the
Bella Vista area Radio Club

*Arkansas' Largest
Amateur Radio Club*



August 2023



Monthly Meetings: 1st Thursdays @ 7 p.m.
Arkansas Law Enforcement Training Academy (ALETA)
3424 S. Downum Road, Springdale AR

(HAM 101 Workshop for Newcomers @ 6pm preceding meeting)

Club Call: N5BVA

Website: www.bellavistaradioclub.org

Repeaters: 147.255 +offset, pl 162.2

444.100 +offset, pl 162.2

WEEKLY NETS:

BVRC Legacy Net

**Wednesdays @ 7 pm on the
BVRC Dual Linked Repeaters**

N5BVA/Bella Vista: 147.255, +offset, pl 162.2

N5BVA/Springdale: 444.100, +5 MHz, pl 162.2

BVRC 3830 Roundtable

Sunday Afternoons

4 pm during CST

4:30 pm during CDT

3.830 MHz

BVRC HAM 101 Net

**Tuesdays @ 8 pm on the
WX5NAS 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 – 145.310, -offset, pl 103.5

NEXT BVRC MONTHLY MEETING

THURSDAY, AUGUST 3, 2023 @ 7PM
ARKANSAS LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING ACADEMY
3424 S. DOWNUM ROAD
SPRINGDALE, AR



August Meeting Info



HAM 101 WORKSHOP, 6 PM – Our HAM 101 Workshop for August features BVRC member and CW veteran Nick Kennedy – WA5BDU. Nick will be featuring a program for our newcomer hams on what is still the fascinating mode of CW (Morse code)! Nick will be sharing his 50+ years experiences with CW, the advantages of using CW, as well as answering any questions on how to get started with this great mode.

AUGUST MEETING, 7 PM – BVRC welcomes a very special speaker for our August meeting.....ARRL Arkansas Section Manager Jay Ferguson – N5LKE from Searcy will be traveling to Springdale to grace us with what will be a super and informative program.

Jay has served several consecutive terms as ARRL Arkansas SM, and has done an excellent job in directing the ARRL state leadership. Jay travels across the state year round, and is an avid operator and DXer.

Jay will be speaking on the topic of the very successful VOTA event (Volunteers On The Air) that commenced on January 1, and is a year-long event in 2023 on the air waves.

Jay will also be answering any questions attendees might have about the ARRL. It is an honor to have him visit us, and we encourage everyone who have never met your Section Manager to have an 'eyeball QSO' with Jay, as well as enjoy the great program he has in store for us.

See you then!!

BOARD MEMBERS

President

Jan Hagan – WB5JAN
ianhagan51@gmail.com

Vice President

Joe Hott – W5AEN
joe.hott@gmail.com

Secretary

Dana Hill – W5DGH
dana.hill1979@gmail.com

Treasurer

Mark Whittlesey - WØKYZ
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Technical Officer

Tem Moore – N5KWL
temmoore@gmail.com

Trustee

Glenn Kilpatrick – WB5L
wb5l@arrl.net

Board Member At Large and Public Information Officer

Tom Northfell – W5XNA
w5xna@arrl.net



APPOINTED OFFICERS

VE Testing Committee

Chair: Don Cooper – KC7DC
don_c@hotmail.com

Elmer 911 Committee

Chair: Vinson Carter – WV5C
vinsoncarter@gmail.com

Nets Committee

Chair: Dana Widboom – KI5TGY
dcwidboom@yahoo.com

Membership Committee

Chair: Tom Northfell – W5XNA
w5xna@arrl.net

Social Media Committee

Chair: Rebecca Garrett – N5REB
rebdgarrett@gmail.com

Webmaster

Glenn Kilpatrick – WB5L
wb5l@arrl.net

Newsletter Editor

Don Banta – K5DB
arsk5db@gmail.com

From the Desk of the President



A couple of months ago, our own Don Banta – K5DB, expressed his passionate support of the American Radio Relay League and our club's role as an ARRL affiliated club.

Many were impressed by Don's thoughts as was I.

Don's presentation caused me to reflect personally on just how my ARRL membership directly impacts and benefits my developing amateur radio journey. I asked myself, "Well, just what's in it for me and what do I get from my ARRL membership?"

I had no sooner asked myself the question when ARRL membership benefits that I use daily in my amateur hobby in my own shack began to occur to me. These benefits brought the benefits of my membership into clear focus.

I use the ARRL sponsored "Logbook of the World" program on a daily basis to gather QSL confirmations of the contacts from my station log. In fact, I upload my contacts daily from my N3FJP logging program into LotW to earn ARRL awards such as my "Worked All States" certificate and to submit for ARRL and other contests I participate in. Pursuing these are, for me, a significant part of the joy I receive from the hobby.

Bookmarked copies of "QST" and "On the Air" magazine articles and equipment reviews are piled on my desk much as an inspired cook might collect recipes for the joy of cooking. In fact, the ARRL magazines have served to broaden my interests and understanding of many facets of amateur radio that I first learned through these publications.

On the wall of my shack is a laminated copy of the amateur radio band plan that serves as a reference for my station operating as do the summaries of the ARRL contest rules I participate in.

These “real world” benefits of my ARRL membership are in addition to the broader benefits the ARRL brings to my amateur radio hobby such as promoting and advocating aggressively for our Amateur Radio Service through spectrum defense, promoting amateur radio to regulators and policymakers, as well as all the other ways where the ARRL defends, promotes, and works to grow amateur radio.

I recently renewed my ARRL membership for three more years.

I feel my membership is as important to my amateur radio hobby as the radio equipment I own!

73,

Jan
WB5JAN



**THE LARGEST AMATEUR RADIO
CLUB IN ARKANSAS!**



You're a part of it ! Thanks for your support !

Get involved in club activities!



**Bella Vista area Radio Club
30th Anniversary Calendar of
Educational & Operating Events 2023**
(Mark your calendar and join in!)

July 22 & 29:

Technician license class, ALETA in Springdale
(Tom, W5XNA – Instructor)
Information in this issue of *The Signal*

August 19:

3rd Annual BVRC CW Roundup
Information in this issue of *The Signal*

October 14:

N5BVA 30th ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL EVENT STATION #2
Two station portable operation from Park Springs Park – Bentonville.
More info in future issues of *The Signal*

December 7:

BVRC Annual Christmas and Awards Banquet
ALETA facility, Springdale



**WELCOME
NEW BVRC
MEMBERS!!!**

Dylan Feeney – N3PYM – Shavertown, PA
Steve Ponder – KJ5BWG – Springdale
Mike Vanderlip – K5CMV – Lowell
Jason Korzendorfer – KJ5BVO – Prairie Grove
Terry Phillips – KG5MQI – Huntsville
Case Murphy – KC7KCM – Rogers
Randy Collins – N5CZ – Bentonville

BVRC VE REPORT

FROM DON COOPER - KC7DC

BVRC VE COORDINATOR

JULY 8, 2023



Congratulations!

**Jason Korzendorfer – KJ5BVO - Prairie Grove
New Technician!**

**Nathan Rowe – KJ5BXE – Green Forest
New Technician!**

**Steve Ponder – KJ5BWG – Springdale
New Technician & General!**

**Terry Phillips – KG5MQI – Huntsville
New General!**

**Case Murphy – KC7KCM – Rogers
New General!**

Test sessions are conducted each 2nd Saturday of the month:

- 10 am at Shiloh Museum, 118 W. Johnson Ave, Springdale and***
- 2 pm at Bella Vista Fire Station #1, 103 NE Towncenter, Bella Vista***

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



ANNOUNCING THE ANNUAL BVRC CW ROUNDUP



Date: Saturday, August 19, 2023

Time Period: 7pm – 8pm local time (0000-0100Z, August 20)

Frequency: 3.540 – 3.560 kHz

Operating classes: **CLASS A** – BVRC member – Experienced CW operator
CLASS B – Newcomer or newer CW operator (BVRC member or non-member)
CLASS C – Non-BVRC member – Experienced CW operator
CLASS D – Listeners who copy and log only, with the use of FL Digi, code readers, etc.

CQing: Send “CQ CWR CQ CWR”

Exchange: Signal report (including operating class) / QTH (your location) / name

Example: If you are a newer CW operator and you are in QSO with K5XYZ whose signal is readable, their signal strength is registering a ‘7’ on your S-meter and their signal tone is good, your callsign is W5ABC, you live in Bentonville, and your name is Albert, you would send something along the lines of:

K5XYZ DE W5ABC (K5XYZ this is W5ABC) BT̄ (break)

RST IS 579 B 579 B BT̄

QTH IS BENTONVILLE, AR BENTONVILLE, AR BT̄

NAME IS ALBERT ALBERT BT̄

HW CPY? (How did you copy my transmission?)

K5XYZ DE W5ABC K (Over)

The other station would then reply with their information using the same format. After the exchanges are completed, short informal remarks can be made during the QSO if desired, after which the contact would end with something along the lines of:

TNX FER QSO (thanks for the QSO)

GL ES 73 (Good luck and best wishes)

K5XYZ DE W5ABC SK̄ (end of contact)

Description of event: *This 1-hour event is not a contest.* Rather, it is a celebration of our area newcomers, returners to the mode of CW, and listeners. It is also intended to enable our veteran CW operators to enjoy helping the newcomers in making CW contacts. There are no points scored, and no results or standings posted. **You do NOT have to be a member of BVRC to participate.**

A handsome certificate will be issued to each participant submitting a log entry from the event.

Send logs no later than Saturday, August 26, to Don Banta – K5DB:

Regular mail log: Don Banta
3407 Diana St.
Springdale, AR 72764

Electronic log: arsk5db@gmail.com
Attach file: [call].log



HAVE FUN IN THE LAST HALF OF 2023 WITH YOUR PURSUIT OF THE BVRC WORKED-ALL-STATES AWARD!

BVRC-30 WAS AWARD

- #1 Michael Kemper – W5KMK
- #2 Jan Hagan – WB5JAN
- #3 James Wood- N5ZMX
- #4
- #5



The Bella Vista area Radio Club Board has approved for issuance the BVRC 30th Anniversary Worked All States Award! General class licensees and above can have a lot of HF enjoyment for the remainder of 2023 by working all 50 United States and achieving this handsome award for your shack wall!

All contacts made during calendar year 2023 count toward this award. You do NOT have to be BVRC member to pursue and acquire the award. Any General licensee and above is welcome to apply. If you would like a copy of the requirements/rules for the award, send an e-mail to Don-K5DB at: arsk5db@gmail.com, and he will be happy to send you a .pdf file with that info.

Go get 'em, and have fun working the states!

Congratulations to Michael Kemper-W5KMK, Jan Hagan-WB5JAN, and James Wood- N5ZMX for acquiring the first three awards this past month !

BVRC Members:

**CELEBRATE
BELLA VISTA AREA RADIO CLUB'S
30TH BIRTHDAY WITH A
COMMEMORATIVE CLUB MUG!**



NEW



Embroidered Memories, official supplier of BVRC accessories (owned and operated by club members John and Kim – W5HB & KD5TVX), now has available the Bella Vista area Radio Club commemorative mug. This handsome mug includes the club's N5BVA commemorative QSL card on both sides, with your callsign opposite the handle.

The mug price is \$15.00, not including s&h.
(Can be delivered to club meetings free of charge.)
A great piece of memorabilia for years to come!

To order your mug, click [here](#).



New General Class Question Pool Now In Effect



The new Element 3 – General Class question pool went into effect on July 1, 2023. The BVRC/ARRL VE teams, as with all VE teams nationwide, now have the new Element 3 exams on hand and ready to implement.

For all persons wishing to take the General Class exam, be sure you are using a license manual, online website, etc. that is current with the new exam pool. If you use a study aid based on the old question pool prior to July 1, 2023, you will probably encounter negative ramifications when you sit for your exam.

ARRL Youth Licensing Program

The ARRL Youth Licensing Program, in effect since April 19, 2022, will cover the one-time \$35 application fee for new license candidates *17 years of age or younger* who take tests administered under the ARRL VEC program:

- After providing proof of age and passing the test, the youth candidate will be given a Certificate of Successful Completion of Examination (CSCE). They will also then complete the ARRL Youth Licensing Reimbursement form before leaving the test site. The reimbursement form will then be included with the other exam session forms and documentation to be submitted to ARRL HQ, who in turn will forward to the FCC for license issuance.
- When the youth candidate receives notice from the FCC that their new license has been issued, they will be required to pay the \$35 license fee via the FCC Universal Licensing System website out of their own funds. After remitting the fee, they will then be sent a link which will enable them to download, save, and print their new license.
- Shortly after paying the fee to the FCC (usually 1-3 weeks), the youth candidate will receive the \$35 reimbursement check from the ARRL via regular mail.

Also, youth candidates 17 years or younger will pay a reduced examination fee of \$5 (standard exam fee for candidates 18 years or older is \$15) to the BVRC/ARRL VE team at the time of the exam. Proof of under-18 status will be required at the exam session.

BVRC FIELD DAY 2023!

The July BVRC meeting was held Thursday, June 29, at ALETA in Springdale. The meeting had to be moved up one week, due to the meeting room being needed by a law enforcement class on July 6. It was once again an almost packed house. The topic for the July meeting was a review of the BVRC Field Day 2023 event that was held the weekend previous.

Field Day chair Tom Northfell-W5XNA and BVRC President Jan Hagan – WB5JAN saluted all those present at the meeting, as well as those not able to attend that evening, who served as volunteers for FD2023, which numbered over 25. It was these volunteers exhibiting their different talents in all the needed areas of operation for the event coupled with great leadership and coordination, that made BVRC Field Day 2023 one of the best Field Day's BVRC has hosted – possibly the best ever. Just shy of 100 members and guests visited the BVRC Field Day site over the weekend.

Please enjoy *The Signal's* 2023 Field Day photo album on the following pages. (Photos courtesy W5XH, N5REB, W5DSL, KI5TGY, KDØKCY and K5DB)



A portion of the many BVRC FD 2023 volunteers present at the July meeting are recognized for their invaluable service in making the club's FD a huge success



BVRC Hospitality Chair Bill Durham – KG5ZCI (left) and hospitality co-coordinator Alan Katz – KE0QFO (2nd from right), along with BVRC President Jan Hagan – WB5JAN (right) and FD 2023 Coordinator Tom Northfell – W5XNA (2nd from left) present Richard and Pam Davis (center) of Whistling Springs Brewing Co. the BVRC Certificate of Appreciation for one of the most valuable donations made for the 2023 Field Day event – the delicious meats that were served at the Saturday evening meal.

Antenna Raising Day (it was hot!).....



Vinson-WV5C,
James-N5ZMX,
Don-K5DB, and
Marc-WØKYZ
assemble the
mini-beam



Mini-beam being placed on mast before raising



A portion of the N5BVA antenna array including two dipoles and 2-meter beam



CW station antenna

The Big Day!



BVRC'S new Cushcraft MA5-B Mini-Beam



Jessie – KG5YJV during the FD “fox hunt”



Nick-WA5BDU conducting an interview for the BVRC YouTube Channel



N5BVA also was on the 6-meter band with this nifty KN4SLP homebrew 6-mtr antenna, as well as running one of the stations on solar power which garnered more bonus points!



BVRC Information Coordinator Fred-KI5WVN (left) with Dana-KI5TGY at the BVRC FD Welcome and Information table



Walking up to FD site
(FD cooling station
trailer on left)

FD crowd prepares for
opening ceremony
prior to start of FD contest



BVRC President Jan Hagan – WB5JAN
officially opens BVRC Field Day 2023



Our brand new BVRC Field Day Banner



Jon-K5DVT, Craig-KC5MXV,
and Alex-KI5EQK



Murray-W5XH, Jon-K5DVT, James-KA5DVS, and Mark-K5XH



CW station captain
Chuck-KM5G



BVRC President Jan-WB5JAN presents Certificates of Appreciation to our honored guests: Bella Vista Mayor John Flynn, Bella Vista Television host J.B. Portillo, and BV POA Chairman Tom Judson



SSB Station: Sophie – KI5WVD makes a contact as her dad, Mike-KF5RUO, enters it in the log



Sharron-KC5SKY conducts an interview
for the BVRC YouTube Channel



Curt Porter-KK5HNX makes his first ever HF QSOs with SSB station captain Vinson-WV5C



BVRC Hospitality Coordinator Bill-KG5ZCI announces "The soup's on!" for the marvelous Saturday evening meal



A portion of the great attendance by BVRC members and guests at Field Day 2023



**Digital station:
station captain Joe-W5AEN
and James-N5ZMX**



**The super RIB (Rig In a Box)
furnished by Glenn-WB5L,
one of the rigs used for Digital station**



**Grillmeister and
Co-Hospitality Coordinator
Alan-KEØQFO
(He makes a great batch
of biscuits & gravy, too!)**

First BVRC Field Day VE Test Session

Another new feature this year was the first VE amateur license exam session that was conducted during the FD event. We had one candidate that passed his Technician exam. Congratulations to Elijah Reeves – KFØNDT from Noel, MO. We wish Elijah the best on beginning his amateur radio adventure.



**BVRC
VE Testing Coordinator
Don Cooper – KC7DC
conducts YouTube interview**



**Elijah Reeves
from Noel, MO
passes his
Technician license exam**





**James-N5ZMX
checks-out the
SSB station prior
to the start of
BVRC FD 2023**



**GOTA (Get On The Air)
station captains
Robert-K5NZV &
Dana-W5DGH**

**CW station:
Ken Mills-N5EE**



**Bob-WBØAUQ and
Robert-K5NZV take a
break from antenna
raising activities
on Friday**



**Carol-W5CDW
& Tom-KN4SLP
at the antenna raising
party on Friday**





Mack-KI5RFI looks on while Vinson-WV5C logs for Rebecca-N5REB as she racks-up another SSB contact



**BVRC "Field Day Twins"
(Rebecca-N5REB operating, Tom-W5XNA logging)**



Some of our great CW operators Stan-K5GO (center) and Nick-WA5BDU (right), join Chuck-KM5G (left) at the BVRC Field Day CW station



A dazzling job of arranging the biggest and best BVRC Field Day ever by FD Coordinator Tom-W5XNA



Alex-KI5EQK during this year's added attraction: the first BVRC FD "fox hunt"



**BVRC Treasurer Marc-WØKYZ at the digital station
with Joe-W5AEN and James-N5ZMX**

2023 BVRC FIELD DAY RESULTS:

CW Station QSOs:	1,199
SSB Station QSOs:	487
Digital Station QSOs:	193
Total QSOs:	1,879
U.S. States worked (50 possible):	49
Canadian provinces worked (14 possible):	11
DX countries worked:	15
ARRL sections worked (85 possible):	80
Category:	3A

THE SIGNAL newsletter is published monthly for members of the Bella Vista Radio Club. BVRC disclaims any responsibility for the accuracy or the content of articles published herein. The opinions expressed are solely those of the authors. BVRC neither necessarily endorses nor opposes said opinions, brand names, products, businesses, organizations, etc. Submission of any amateur radio related articles is encouraged and welcomed. Submit your article to the editor: Don Banta-K5DB, 3407 Diana St., Springdale, AR 72764 (or E-mail to: arsk5db@gmail.com) for publication in THE SIGNAL. The deadline for articles is the 10th of each month.