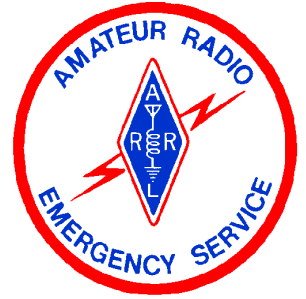




**BELLBROOK
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**
Bellbrook, Ohio
W8DGN



An ARRL Special Service Club

April 2018 Newsletter

Volume 43—Number 4

NEXT MEETING

3rd Thursday, 19 April 2018, 7:30 PM

BARC Clubhouse & Communications Center
Sugarcreek Elementary School, Room 1 Lower Level
51 South East Street, Bellbrook
Talk-in on BARC 147.045(+) Repeater

Pre-Meeting Hospitality & Fellowship

Starts at 7:00 PM

PROGRAM

Overview of Antenna Analyzers

by Mike Suhar W8RKO

*Antenna analyzers are the latest in test equipment
for the ham radio experimenter.*

*In his presentation, Mike will discuss the technology
that makes them possible.*

*He will cover how they work, but more importantly,
he will show examples of practical usage of the device.*

Mike also will cover pit falls to be careful of when using them.

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UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

BARC April 19th Membership Meeting

- **7:00 PM:** Pre-meeting Hospitality & Refreshments
- **7:30 PM:** Regular monthly Club meeting
- **Program: Overview of Antenna Analyzers**
by Mike Suhar W8RKO
- **Business meeting:** Follows Presentation

Greene County VE Test Session (04/22)

The Greene County VE Test Session will be held Sunday, April 22nd at **6:00 PM** at Beaver Creek Township Fire Station 61, 2195 Dayton Xenia Road, just west of Orchard Lane.

BARC Antennas Study Group (04/23)

The BARC Antenna Study Group, part of BARC's Continuing Education Program **will continue on Monday 23 April at 7:00 PM** at the Clubhouse.

This is a presentation and discussion series on basic antenna fundamentals with minimal math and theory. The Antenna Study Group will meet for a couple hours or so weekly on Monday evenings for next couple of weeks—a little longer if needed.

Scope of this Special Interest Group (SIG) will be practical HF and VHF/UHF monoband and multiband horizontal and vertical antenna designs including wire antennas, beams, supports, feedlines, baluns, tuners/matching units, etc., and how to calculate

element lengths for constructing antennas. And, about why and when to use different designs for different objectives.

The last time we did this, we followed-up the 'classroom' sessions with some field trips to survey some home QTH sites for those interested in erecting antennas.

Over twenty members have expressed interest in attending this continuing education opportunity and others are welcome to join us. If interested, please advise Fred at W8LLY@ARRL.net or just “come on down”!

NOTE: Future class sessions will be announced on BARC Reflector and BARC Antennas SIG Email List.

Montgomery Co ARES Meeting (04/24)

The next Montgomery County ARES general membership meeting will be Tuesday, April 24, 2018, 7:00 PM at the American Red Cross Dayton Area Chapter, located at 370 West First Street, just east of I-75 in downtown Dayton. For more information about Montgomery County ARES, contact EC Rob Flory KA5RUC at KA5RUC@MoCoARES.org

Dinner & A Movie” (04/26)

The next **BARC “Dinner & A Movie” Night** will be on February 22nd at 7:00 PM (the usual LAST Thursday).

BARC member Emerio Barrera TG9AZB will be our guest chef this month with a menu of Frijoles Charro,

Guacamole, Chips, and a selection of delicious desserts. The menu, of course, also includes the usual soft drinks, coffee, water and popcorn.

Plan to attend with your significant other for a great meal, a good movie and the usual Fun, Food and Fellowship with your BARC Friends!

[Bellbrook Sugar Maple Festival Parade](#)

BARC will be assisting the 40th Annual Bellbrook Sugar Maple Festival Parade Committee again this year on **Saturday, April 28nd**, by helping to direct parade participants to their line-up positions & by providing communications support for coordination, safety and security. As usual, we need around 12-16 operators to effectively cover this BARC public service event. **New hams** are especially encouraged to come out and work with an experience BARC member to become familiar with public service support activities and procedures.

The SMF Parade starts at 10:30 AM. Operators will meet at **9:00 AM** in the parking lot of the Bellbrook Community Church on West Franklin Street at Vemco Drive to pick up a line-up sheet, an assignment and a safety vests. Operators need to be at their assigned positions by 9:30 AM to get parade participants lined up by 10:15 AM. Vehicular units on Vemco will “roll-out” at apx 10:15 AM in order to be at the merging point (intersection of West Franklin St and Little Sugarcreek Road) by 10:30 AM.

This is a community service project that BARC has supported since the first Sugar Maple Parade in 1979. So please come out and do your part to make this another successful BARC public service event.

We will use BARC's primary simplex frequency **147.405** for parade operations again this year.

The parade will be held rain or shine unless there is a severe thunderstorm. Weather is unknown at this time so come prepared--bring your rain gear and a plastic bag to protect your HT, just in case. Also, bring a fully charged battery or a spare battery and an appropriate antenna for your radio.

Further details in the BARC April Newsletter. Contact Don Parker KB8PSL if you have any questions but please plan to support this event.

[Ohio ARES NVIS Antenna Day \(04/28\)](#)

Also on Saturday, April 28nd, is the 4th Annual NVIS Antenna Day sponsored by Ohio Section ARES. The purpose of this event is for ARES groups, radio clubs and individual hams to set up, operate and evaluate performance of different configurations of NVIS type antennas by communicating with other hams across Ohio and surrounding states.

Because of deteriorating propagation conditions on the 80m and 40m bands, 160m and 60m NVIS also will be tested during this year's test. Greene County ARES is planning to participate in this event but specific details are not yet firm. BARC members are invited and encouraged to stop by the Bellbrook Site after the SMF Parade to participate or at least visit and observe.

Further details will be disseminated in the April Newsletter. For more information, contact Greene County ARES EC Henry Ruminski, W8HJR, at Henry.Ruminski@wright.edu or your respective county Emergency Coordinator.

[Greene County ARES Meeting \(04/30\)](#)

The next Greene County ARES meeting will be Monday, April 30, 2018, 7:30 PM, at Beaver Creek Township Fire Station 61 Training Room, 2195 Dayton Xenia Road just west of Orchard Lane.

For more information about Greene County ARES, contact EC Henry Ruminski, W8HJR, at Henry.Ruminski@wright.edu.

[BARC Planning Group Meeting \(05/03\)](#)

The next BARC Planning Group Meeting will be held May 3rd (1st Thursday) at 7:30 PM at the Clubhouse. All officers are expected to attend if available and all coordinators are encouraged to attend to participate in the discussions and planning of future BARC activities and projects. BARC members are always welcome to attend.

[BARC Field Day Committee \(05/10\)](#)

The next BARC Field Day Committee meeting will be on May 10th at 7:30 PM, the 2nd Thursday. Everyone is welcome to attend—especially those interested in serving on one of the support teams. The next (final) Field Day Committee Meeting will be June 14 (although, there will some special preparation gatherings leading up to Field Day Saturday).

BARC's Field Day again, for the 21st year, will be held in and around Sackett Wright Park Shelter #1 the weekend of June 23-24. Sackett Wright Park is on the east side of Bellbrook with entrance immediately east of the intersection of State Route 725 and Lower Bellbrook Road. Shelter #1 is located adjacent the 1st parking lot on the left as you enter the Park.

If you are interested in being on the Field Day Committee or interested and willing to volunteer to be a leader or member of one of the Field Day functional teams, please let Ray know by email or just attend the May 10th meeting (contact information on last page of Newsletter).

MVMA MESH Meeting (05/12)

The next meeting of the GCARES / Miami Valley Mesh Alliance will be Saturday, April 14th, 0930 to apx noon, at the DARA Clubhouse on Bellefontaine Road in Huber Heights.

FUTURE ACTIVITIES

BARC May General Membership Meeting

The BARC May General Membership Meeting will be held on the usual 3rd Thursday 17 May at 7:30 PM. The Refreshments/Hospitality time begins at 7:00 PM. Visitors always welcome.

Dayton Hamvention® (05/18-20)

The 2018 Dayton Hamvention® will be held again this year at the Greene County Fairgrounds & Expo Center in Xenia on Friday, Saturday & Sunday, May 18-20th. More details at www.Hamvention.org

GENERAL INFORMATION & REPORTS

BARC Clubhouse Street Level Access

Remember that street level access to the BARC Clubhouse is now available for members preferring not to have to climb up and down steps in order to attend BARC meetings, movie night and other Club activities.

A volunteer team of BARC members will take turns welcoming members and guests, who prefer street level access, to enter at the Gym exterior entrance on the north side of the school (near the rear north-east corner) from apx 7:00-7:30 PM on regular meeting nights and movie nights. We don't want anyone not to attend Club meetings and activities because of the steps.

BARC 2018 Meeting Presentations

BARC Program Presentation Coordinator Ken Moak KM8AM announced the following Schedule of Programs to be presented for the 2018 Meetings.

2018 Program Schedule

A series of presentations on "Back to Basics"

Jan: The Vacuum Tube, "Hollow State Technology," Ken, KM8AM

Feb: "Using Antenna Tuners," Roger Parrett NQ8RP

Mar: "BARC Annual Dinner Meeting"

Apr: "Antenna Analyzers," Mike Suhar W8RKO

May: Pre-Hamvention Chat "Whatcha Going To Buy"

Jun: "Pre-Field Day Plan," Ray Hitt FD Coordinator

Jul: Possible SKYPE Video from DX Engineering: "K3LR Contest Super Station"

Aug: "Post-Field Day Photo Review & Wrap Up,"

Sep: "Grounding and Bonding", Ken, KM8AM

Oct: "Annual Chili Dinner"

Nov: TBD

Dec: TBD

This leaves just two requested topics needing presenters:

- 1: Basic Operating Techniques - HF
- 2: Basic Operating Techniques - VHF

Please contact Vice President Jim Totten WA8HUB if you would like to speak on one of these topics. Presentations normally are 20-45 minutes and can be in whatever style you want. The 2018 open months are November and December.

BARC Weekly Net—Sundays 8 PM

Remember to join your friends for the BARC weekly Net on Sunday evenings at 8:00 PM on the BARC 2m repeater, 147.045 (+)(no PL). BARC's 70cm repeater, 443.675 (+)(no PL), is the alternate in the event the 2m repeater is not useable.

The Net provides an opportunity between Club meetings to share news and information about Club and personal projects and activities.

Thank You! to the following BARC member who fulfill the monthly schedule for current **Regular Net Control Stations**: Ken Moak KM8AM (1st Sunday), Steve Siwecki KD8NUC (2nd Sunday), Eric Vinande KG6NFJ (3rd Sunday), Paul Sharp KD8OPN (4th Sunday), and Mike Kinsey KD8GME (on 5th Sundays).

Reserve Net Control Stations who offer to substitute for regular NCS' include Chris Stauter KD8NUC, Karen Moak KM8Q, Larry Darner KD8RER and Greg Goffe N8DRG.

We want to thank ALL of the Regular and Reserve Net Control Stations, especially Steve Siwecki for volunteering to fill a Regular NCS position when Greg Goffe recently transferred from Regular to Reserve status. We also welcome Chris, Karen, Larry and Greg as Reserve NCS'.

BARC Fundraising Opportunities

• Kroger's Rewards Program

Please remember to use your Kroger Card when shopping at Kroger's and support BARC through the Kroger Rewards Program. If you have not yet signed up and need help, please bring your Kroger Card to the next BARC meeting and we'll help you get registered.

• [AmazonSmile Rewards Program](#)

BARC is registered in an Amazon rewards program called **AmazonSmile**. Charitable and non-profit organizations receive **0.5%** of total purchase price (small but it adds up over time). A web page of basic Q&A info on the AmazonSmile program is available at:

http://smile.amazon.com/about/ref=smi_se_ft_abt_saas

You must shop through **smile.amazon.com** for BARC to receive benefits. You can use your existing Amazon account. When you sign up for **AmazonSmile**, simply select Bellbrook Amateur Radio Club as your preferred charity when prompted.

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for BARC members (and family and friends) to support BARC, at no cost to you, every time you shop at Amazon. Just log in to Amazon like you usually do and you'll be asked if you want to use AmazonSmile. Just click YES and you're ready to shop.

When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection & convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to BARC. So, be sure to register in AmazonSmile the next time you shop At Amazon and then log back in at AmazonSmile.

[ARRL Discounted Membership Offer](#)

BARC members are reminded that 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 discount as a club membership benefit in order 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 BARC Treasurer Paul Sharp KD8OPN for details.

PAST ACTIVITIES

[Minutes-March 15th Club Meeting](#)

By Steve Siwecki KD8NUC, Secretary

March 15th marked **BARC's 42nd Annual Dinner Meeting** held at the Golden Corral in Beavercreek. Dave Walton KD8GCR led the 27 club members and family in attendance in prayer prior to the meal. Everyone enjoyed the food, fun and fellowship. Congratulations to Jim Lusk and Ken Gunton who each won a Golden Corral gift certificate, and John

Sellers and Carolyn Lusk who each won an IHOP gift certificate . No business was conducted.

[Planning Group Notes—April 5th, 2018](#)

By Steve Siwecki KD8NUC, Secretary

Officers & Members-at-Large Present:

- Natinka Siwecki KD8NUA, President
- Jim Totten WA8HUB Vice President
- Paul Sharp KD8OPN, Treasurer
- Steve Siwecki KD8NUC, Secretary
- Don Parker KB8PSL, Sr. Director
- Jim Lusk KC8EFD, Jr. Director

Functional Coordinators Present:

- Bob French AC8ZU, Webmaster
- Ray Hitt N8VMX, Field Day
- Ken Gunton W8ASA, Contesting
- Roger Parrett NQ8RP, EmComm/Prep
- Russ Roysden N8NPT, Repeaters

General Membership Present:

- Darryl Fowler KD8JQE
- Mel Metzler KD8VWC
- Ron Phillips AE6QU
- Chris Stauter KD8APN
- Dave Walton KD8GCR

Officers & Members-at-Large Absent: None

The Meeting was called to order at 7:32 by the President.

Repeater Noise. The idea of adding a PL (aka CTCSS) tone to the repeater to reduce noise was suggested. Russ Roysden indicated that adding (or removing) a PL tone is simple. Some felt that adding a PL tone would introduce a hardship for net participants given that they would have to reprogram their radios. Russ and Ray Hit will attempt the system testing, suggested at earlier meetings, first to see if the noise issue can be resolved by other means. It may be that the new hard line (to be installed) may solve the problem. If not, a PL tone trial run/test will be attempted.

All BARC and No Bite Challenge (aka work all BARC challenge). Ken Moak KM8AM has written updated rules. They will be forwarded to appropriate parties for posting in the newsletter, Facebook, and the webpage.

Feedline to Front of Clubhouse: No progress as of tonight. Ken Moak, via e-mail, reiterates his suggestion that this be executed by the clubhouse coordinator since it entails just connecting to one of the antenna patch panel connectors but involves lots of disturbance to the actual clubhouse ceilings and possibly the walls if connection boxes are used.

BARC Membership List. Hardcopies of the membership list were distributed at the March Dinner

Meeting. Paul Sharp will send updated lists to the membership via email throughout the year. Bob French is looking into setting up a secure “member’s only” portion of the website and when finished the updates can be posted there instead.

BARC Apparel: Paul Sharp has received no responses to the call for T-shirt orders. It will be announced again at the General Membership meeting where orders can be placed, and payments be collected.

Electronic Service Bench. Tim Proconiar N8NQH will take the technical lead and work closely with Clubhouse Coordinator Jim Lusk for installation and placement of the bench and related facility issues (such as power). They will also coordinate with others who have offered to help and/or donate materials.

Clubhouse ‘Hospitality Center’ Refrigerator. The club has outgrown the clubhouse refrigerator which itself has mechanical issues of its own. Ken and Karen Moak have determined that their spare refrigerator that they hoped would be operational will in fact “be going to the dump”. Don Parker will check on a potentially spare unit. If Don’s refrigerator is not available, Paul has indicated that there are sufficient funds to purchase a new refrigerator.

BARC 2017 Financial Audit. The BARC 2017 financial Audit is overdue. Don Parker, Ken Gunton and Dave Walton will conduct the audit.

BARC Key Events Calendar. Paul Sharp keeps a calendar of BARC key events. The primary purpose was to ensure that important business deadlines or due dates were met. The members present discussed the entries and Paul will update the calendar.

Magic Jack Computer. Thank you to Stu Holzer K8ST for his donation.

Eyeball Cards. We should update (for future printings) the BARC “eyeball cards” and QSL cards to include the ARRL “Special Service Club” logo reflecting BARC’s designation as such. Megan Espenshade-Vinande KD8RES will be contacted as she designed the original cards.

Communication Center. Ken Moak reports in absentia that:

- As soon as weather permits, he intends to finish the 2017 antenna project. This includes installing the remaining feedlines, the last 80/60,40 dipole, the vertical, and the EMCOMM 144/440 antennas. Paul recently acquired the needed cable connectors.

- Any further Communication Center tasks should come from the new Communications Center Committee.

Emergency Preparedness. Roger Parrett intends to profile and update the station laptops by next meeting.

BARC Net. Paul Sharp reports that the net is going well and reminds all net controller to send a net report (# check-ins and duration) to Henry Ruminski W8HJR and Fred Stone W8LLY.

Clubhouse: Coordinator James Lusk reiterated that he intends to install the third air conditioner and the poles/posts to keep the lawn mowers from hitting and damaging the air conditioner.

Hospitality. Movie Night will be held on 26 April.

Public Service. Don reports that Sugar Maple Festival will be held 27-29 April and the parade will be that Saturday – volunteers are still needed.

Contesting. Ken Gunton reports that only two members participated in the WPX (work all prefix) contest. He has concluded that our club, as a whole, has little interest in contesting.

Field Day. Ray Hitt reports that the next Field Day Committee meeting will be held on 12 April 2018.

Financial Report. Paul Sharp presented period to date financial report

Hamvention 2018. The club has offered to rent an additional flea market space adjacent to Jim Totten’s and Ray Hitt’s space to alleviate space concerns at Hamvention’s new venue. The remainder of BARC’s donated surplus equipment can be offered at Hamvention. Jim will check availability.

Adjournment. The president adjourned the meeting at 8:44 PM.

Please see below for:

- Regularly Scheduled Nets
 - *BARC Calendar*
 - *2018 Officers & Coordinators*
 - *In the Event of an Emergency Situation*
 - *Directions to the BARC Clubhouse*
-

REGULARLY SCHEDULED NETS

Daily (Sunday through Saturday)	1030, 1615 and 1845 <u>Ohio Single Sideband Net (OSSBN)</u> Primary: 3972.5 KHz LSB Alternates: 3968 & 7272 KHz LSB
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Sundays	<u>1900 Newcomers & Elmers Net (Cincinnati)</u> 146.670 (-) (123.0 PL)
Sundays	<u>2000 BARC Weekly Net</u> 147.045 (+) (no PL) [Alt = 443.675]
Sundays	<u>2100 Miami Co. Voice/Data Net</u> (Data Net follows Voice Net) 145.230 (-) (no PL)

Tuesdays	<u>1900 Ohio ARES HF Net</u> W8SGT Net Control at OEMA HQ Primary: 3920 KHz LSB (+/- QRM) Alternate: 7240 KHz LSB
Tuesdays	<u>1945 Ohio ARES HF Digital Net</u> Primary: 3585 KHz USB Alternate: 7072 KHz USB
Tuesdays	<u>2000 MoCoARES Weekly Net</u> 146.640 (-) (123.0 Hz PL) (<u>Except</u> —No Net on last Tuesday of even months (MoCoARES meeting)) (<u>Except</u> —On 2 nd Tuesday: Voice and Data Net on 444.250 (+) (123.0 PL))
Tuesdays	<u>2100 GCARES Net (Voice/Data/Mesh)</u> 146.910 (-)(no PL) [Alt = 442.725]

Wednesdays	<u>2000 Ohio District 3 ARES Net</u> (West Central Ohio Regional Net) <u>Currently (Until Further Notice) --</u> <u>Use Alternate Repeater</u> Primary: 145.110 (-) (67.0 PL) Alternate: 146.820 (-) (77.0 PL)
Wednesdays	<u>2000 Beginners Net</u> (Dayton Area) 444.875 (+) (94.8 PL)

BARC CALENDAR

(ALL TIMES ARE LOCAL)

APRIL 2018

01 Su	EASTER SUNDAY -- NO Greene County License Courses Session
02 M	BARC Antenna Study Group Clubhouse—1900
05 Th	BARC Planning Committee Meeting 1930 BARC Clubhouse
07 Sa	Ohio ARES Conference Marion Technical College
08 Su	GC Technician Class License Course BARC Clubhouse—1830-2130
09 M	BARC Antenna Study Group Clubhouse—1900
12 Th	BARC Field Day Committee Meeting Clubhouse—1930
14 Sa	GCARES/MVMA Meeting—0930-1200 DARA Clubhouse- Bellefontaine Rd, HH
15 Su	GC Technician Class License Course BARC Clubhouse—1830-2130
19 Th	BARC Regular Monthly Meeting 1930 BARC Clubhouse
22 Su	Greene County License Exam Session, 1800, BTFD Station 61 Training Room
24 Tu	Montgomery County ARES Meeting, 1900, Red Cross Dayton Area Chapter
26 Th	BARC “Dinner & A Movie” 1900 BARC Clubhouse
28 Sa	Bellbrook Sugar Maple Festival Parade 1030 (Operators meet at 0900)
28 Sa	BARC/GCARES/Ohio ARES NVIS Antenna Day 1000 (Sites & details TBD)
30 M	GCARES Meeting, 1930, BTFD Station 61

MAY 2018

03 Th	BARC Planning Committee Meeting 1930 BARC Clubhouse
10 Th	BARC Field Day Committee Meeting Clubhouse—1930
12 Sa	MVMA--Miami Valley Mesh Alliance Meeting, 0930-1200, Location TBA
17 Th	BARC Regular Monthly Meeting 1930 BARC Clubhouse
18-20	Hamvention® -- Greene Co. Fairgrounds
31 Th	BARC “Dinner & A Movie” 1900 BARC Clubhouse

JUNE 2017

07 Th	BARC Planning Committee Meeting 1930 BARC Clubhouse
09 Sa	Little Miami River Cleanup 0800-Noon (+ Picnic @ Bellbrook Park)
09 Sa	MVMA--Miami Valley Mesh Alliance Meeting, 0930-1200, Location TBA
14 Th	BARC Field Day Committee Meeting Clubhouse—1930
21 Th	BARC Regular Monthly Meeting 1930 BARC Clubhouse
23-24 Sa-Su	BARC / ARRL Field Day Exercise Sackett-Wright Park, Bellbrook
-----	NO GCARES Meeting This Month
-----	NO MoCoARES Meeting This Month
28 Th	BARC “Dinner & A Movie” 1900 BARC Clubhouse

JULY 2017

04 W	<i>Happy Birthday BARC – 40 years old</i>
12 Th	BARC Planning Committee Meeting 1930 BARC Clubhouse
14 Sa	MVMA--Miami Valley Mesh Alliance Meeting, 0930-1200, Location TBA
19 Th	BARC Regular Monthly Meeting 1930 BARC Clubhouse

BELLBROOK AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

PO Box 73, Bellbrook OH 45305

2018 Officers

PRESIDENT

Tink Siwecki KD8NUA (m) 478-7831
(KD8NUA@ARRL.net)

VICE PRESIDENT

Jim Totten WA8HUB (m) 609-7027
(WA8HUB@ARRL.net)

SECRETARY

Steve Siwecki KD8NUC (m) 278-3086
(KD8NUC@ARRL.net)

TREASURER

Paul Sharp KD8OPN (m) 470-3161
(PSharp1@woh.rr.com) (h) 427-3780

SENIOR DIRECTOR

Don Parker KB8PSL (m) 673-1754
(WA8HUB@ARRL.net)

JUNIOR DIRECTOR

Jim Lusk KC8EFD (m) 272-8988
(JLusk@woh.rr.com)

2018 Coordinators

CLUBHOUSE COORDINATOR

Jim Lusk KC8EFD (m) 272-8988
(JLusk@woh.rr.com) (h) 848-4086

CLUBHOUSE LIBRARIAN

Natinka Siwecki KD8NUA (m) 478-7831
(KD8NUA@ARRL.net)

COMMUNICATION CENTER COORDINATOR

Ken Moak KM8AM (m) 408-6672
(KM8AM@ctcn.net)

EDUCATION COORDINATOR

Fred Stone W8LLY (m) 848-4112
(W8LLY@ARRL.net)

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COORDINATOR

Roger Parrett NQ8RP (m) 477-9645
(RogerParrett@gmail.com)

FIELD DAY COORDINATOR

Ray Hitt N8VMX (m) 974-6781
(HittRA@yahoo.com) (h) 848-4547

HOSPITALITY COORDINATOR

Natinka Siwecki KD8NUA (m) 478-7831
(KD8NUA@ARRL.net)

MEETING PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Jim Totten WA8HUB (m) 609-7027
(WA8HUB@ARRL.net)

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Fred Stone W8LLY (m) 848-4112
(W8LLY@ARRL.net)

PUBLIC SERVICE COORDINATOR

Don Parker KB8PSL (m) 673-1754
(DParker28@att.net)

QSL COORDINATOR

Tom Williams K9DAC (m) 938-0292
(Twilli1621@aol.com)

REPEATER CO-COORDINATOR

Russ Roysden N8NPT (h) 426-3407
(N8NPT@ARRL.net) (m) 751-4689

WEBMASTER

Bob French AC8ZU (m) 272-4449
(BobF@omegsiq.com)

In the event of an actual,
anticipated or potential
emergency situation,
MONITOR (or ACTIVATE)

a Greene County
Information & Alerting Net
on 147.165 MHz (Alt: 147.045)

Directions to the **BARC Clubhouse and Communications Center**

The BARC Clubhouse
& Communication Center
Rooms 1 & 3 Lower Level
Sugarcreek Elementary School
51 S. East Street, Bellbrook
(One block east & one block south
from the traffic light
in downtown Bellbrook —
Enter at South end of building)