



## Minutes for Bella Vista Radio Club

*February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Meeting – DRAFT*

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The Bella Vista Radio Club held its February 2019 meeting at Highland Christian Church at the appointed 7:00 p.m. hour, Thursday, 2/7/2019. President Glenn Kilpatrick, WB5L, welcomed the 42 members and guests, a remarkable number, given that temps were in the teens with snow, and prevented a number from attending. After introductions, the night's speaker was introduced.

**Presentation:** "What's All This Buzz About Grounding," a program on proper station grounding, presented by BVRC member Rick Pope, KG5MWG, a licensed electrician.

**Business Meeting...**after a short break, the meeting was called to order by club president, Glenn Kilpatrick, WB5L.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the January meeting were approved, as posted on the club website.

### Officer Reports:

**Treasurer:** Marc Whittlesey, WØKYZ, reported the bank balance was \$1,647.56, as of 2/6/19.

*Embroidered Hats – newsletter editor Don Banta circulated a new embroidered cap design with a front logo and members' callsign on one or both sides. The caps are \$10 dollars. An optional embroidered call sign on either side is \$5 extra; call signs on both sides are \$10 extra. There is a minimum order of 12 hats. There is a \$35 dollar setup fee that the club will pay for. A larger patch an example of for a jacket was also circulated, but no cost for jackets were provided.*

**Public Information Officer:** K5XK reported he has revived a former project of requesting an ARDOT highway sign indicating the BVRC repeater frequency facing southbound motorists crossing across the MO/AR line on Hwy 71/I-549. Ron recently learned that ARRL Delta Division Director, David Norris, K5UZ, is employed as an engineer with ARDOT. The repeater signage appears to have been permitted based on Act 1100 of the 1995 Arkansas General Assembly, and was discovered late last year by Kevin Thornton, K5KVN.

**Technical Officer:** K5SAW had nothing to report.

**Repeater Trustee:** K5QBX had nothing to report. WB5L asked when the club could expect the new controller to be installed, but there are no specific plans.

### **Activity Committee Reports:**

**VE Testing Report:** WB5L indicated that Larry Bilderback, KD6IRI, will coordinate the February VE testing on 2/9/19.

**Membership Committee:** K5XK and Chris/KG5SZQ reported that 42 members and guests had signed-in at this month's meeting, of which five were visitors and two were new members.

**Emergency Communications:** Chuck Healy, WØCEH, circulated a two page list of "Emergency Communication Courses" and encouraged the club to take as many as possible. The list consists of 16 FEMA online courses, two ARRL Basic and Advanced EmComm courses, plus courses from SKYWARN and CERT (Community Emergency Response Team), per the attached addendum.

Chuck also reported that in the event of an EmComm event, all participants must be able to produce certificates or other proof of completion of basic, prerequisite FEMA courses in order to participate. ARRL ARES training that has been requested is still on-hold, as the League makes changes to the program.

**"Ham 101 Project"** – Committee chairman Gregg Doty was unable to attend due to the weather.

### **Old Business:**

**Club Property Loaner Program:** WB5L has asked for an updated inventory of club property, which will reflect various radios and accessories that will be available for short-term loan to BVRC members.

**Wide Area Net:** Glenn reported that the first two sessions of this new net were successful, and it will continue at 9 p.m., each Wednesday, following the legacy 8 p.m. 2 Meter Repeater net. The purpose of the new net is to provide an additional venue to better communicate with the Club's members who have difficulty reaching the 147.255 repeater at Jane, MO. Thus far, the new Wide Area Nets have attracted 19-20 check-ins each night from Winslow to Fayetteville, to Siloam Springs, and north and east into Eureka Springs, Berryville, and McDonald Co., MO. The "WAN" uses the "NW Arkansas Link System" of seven repeaters (one VHF and six UHF), courtesy of new members N5KWL and N5UFO.

**Videos of Club Programs:** This joint project of BVRC and Bella Vista Community TV continues to build a library of the Club's monthly programs. After editing by Steve Little, AB9YN, the finished video is shown on a rotating basis on COX Cable (Ch. 222) & U-verse (Ch. 99) throughout NW Arkansas. The videos are also available on-demand in DVD format for \$6 each, and will be uploaded to YouTube.

**BVRC Presence on APRS:** With the installation of a digipeater and I-Gate at WB5L's shack, Glenn reports the 147.255 Repeater and operating parameters, club meetings and special events will be visible as they occur. The link is: <https://aprs.fi/#!addr=bella%20vista%20ar> .

**Business Meetings:** No decision has been made on whether to separate the business meeting from the regular monthly 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday meeting. The goal is to prevent meetings from extending beyond 9:00 p.m., and to allow for a more enjoyable and relaxing presentation meeting.

### **New Business:**

**Social Media Coordinator** – Sheila Katz, XYL of Alan, KEØQFO, an aspiring ham, volunteered for the role, with assistance from K5XK, club PIO.

**Arkansas QSO Party and ARRL Field Day** – the club was reminded that BVRC Club Call “N5BVA” will be a ‘Bonus Station’ for the upcoming “AQP,” and BVRC operators will be needed on Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, and also for BVRC's participation in the 2019 ARRL Field Day, June 22-23.

**2019 Dues** – are now payable, and may be remitted via [PayPal](#) on the club website, by mail, or in-person at club meetings to club treasurer Marc Whittlesey, [WØKYZ](#). Thus far, Marc reports 60-70% of the membership have renewed. Dues are \$15 per calendar year, and also include all licensed family members living at the same address. Only one may be designated as the primary ‘voting member’. Members whose dues are not paid by the end of March are removed from the roster.

**New Technician Class** – the club is attempting to organize a new Technician licensing class as part of the new Ham 101 project. It is anticipated that the new class will be conducted during one concentrated weekend. At the conclusion of Saturday and Sunday instruction, the VE Team will administer the exam. Spread the word among prospective hams, and stay tuned!

**Announcements:** Tem/N5KWL encouraged everyone to consider attending the [Russellville Hamfest](#) on Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, indicating that it is one of the ‘Top Two’ Hamfests in the state.

### **Meeting Adjourned.**

**Door Prizes** – included multiple copies of “Get on the Air with Digital,” “Antenna Physics” handbooks, an 10<sup>th</sup> edition of the “Operating Manual,” and “Hints & Kinks,” all by ARRL.

Other door prizes were four assortments of “Lynda’s Nuts,” a monthly favorite, and four crocheted Leprechaun coozie cup ‘hats.’

Attendees >>>

## 42 MEMBERS & GUESTS in Attendance, 02-07-2019

Glenn Kilpatrick, WB5L

Don Cooper, KC7DC

Frank Majdan, K5FWM (ex-KG5ANT)

Marc Whittlesey, W0KYZ

Ron Evans, K5XK

Andy Bower, KG5SEI

Paul Blomgren, KC7DQY

Mark Whatley, K5XH

Jessie Costulis, KG5YJV

Ken Mummery, K6RLA

Paul Dixon, KK5II

Rick Pope, KG5MWG

Steve Werner, K5SAW

Don Banta, K5DB

Chuck Healy, W0CEH

Lorrie Healy, N1RNI

Steve Little, AB9YN

Hank Kress, K8KBW

[Sam Pisciotta \(K8KBW's Guest\)](#)

Eric Nilsson, W4ALW & Alecia

Fred Lemley, K5QBX

Tem Moore, N5KWL

Tom Carroll, KE6UWB

Alan Katz, KE0QFO & XYL Sheila

Chris Deibler, KG5SZQ & Shaun

Jay Bromley, W5JAY

[James Bennett, KA5DVS \(Guest\)](#)

[John Robinson, W5HB \(New Member\)](#)

[Jeremy Walker, KCØSYN \(New Member\)](#)

[Sonya Dawson \(Guest\)](#)

[Scotty Baker, KW5SVB \(Guest\)](#)

Bill Durham, KG5ZCI

Bob McIntire, AC5LX

Ed McCarroll, KCØDX

Randy Banks, N5LML & Sue Ann

Will Kessler, K5ITM

[Jon Williams, K5DVT \(Guest\)](#)

Chase Laird, KI5BQJ

*Don't miss the March 7th BVRC meeting, when the Program will be a first-hand account of:*

***"Apollo Space Program Communications!"***

***###***

***-Minutes by K5XK due to absence of K5UNX, who was out of town.***

***-1 Addendum: "Emergency Communications Courses" from WØCEH***