



Spark Gap

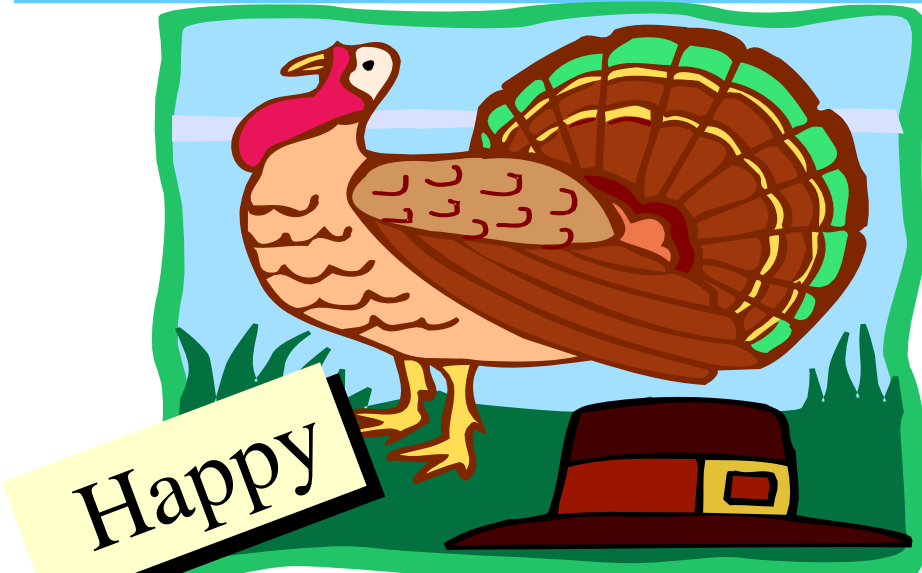
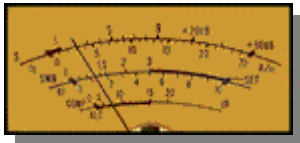
Volume VXX Issue 11

November 2006

Newsletter of the Bellevue Amateur Radio Club (BARC)
7518 Chandler Hills Dr., Bellevue, NE. 68147-2108
Established in 1959 and Celebrating 47 Years as a Club

Meetings:
The Board of Directors meet at 7:30pm on the second Thursday of the month. All members are welcome to attend.

The General Membership Meeting is held on the third Thursday of the month at 7:30pm in the Bellevue Masonic Lodge dining hall, 1908 Franklin St. Directly west of Washington Park on Franklin St.



Thanksgiving



Special points of interest:

- * More QRP pg 3
- * Minutes pg 4
- * About Towers pg 5
- * Dec. Club Calendar pg 6
- * Get your license pg 6
- * Local nets pg 7
- * Local Get-togethers pg 8



CALL SIGN	FIRST	LAST
WDØBFO	Tom	Huber
KE6DZD	Wayne	Jorns
KGØAR	Bill	Venter
AB9CB	Mary Anne	Wilson
WBØQQK	Frank	Vondra
KØGQK	Robert	Conley
KCØVYV	Kristin	Shoemaker

*The Bellevue Amateur Radio Club (BARC)
 Proudly Operating the **WØWYV** Repeater on 147.39+
 And Maintaining the following Web Page Addresses:*

BARC Home Page—<http://www.bellevuearc.org>

Current Dues Schedule			
Full Membership	\$12.00	Family Membership	\$18.00
Student membership	\$6.00	First Time Ticket Holder no charge first year	

The **Spark Gap** is the Official newsletter of the Bellevue Amateur Radio Club and is published monthly. It is distributed the first week of the month prior to the regular meeting. **In order to facilitate this, the deadline for inputs is the last week of each month (I.E. last week of April for the May issue.)**

The minutes for all Executive Board meetings of the B.A.R.C. are available for viewing at the scheduled business meetings of the club. If you are interested in seeing the minutes, ask the Secretary to see the minutes at that time.

Current B.A.R.C. Officers			
President	Ladonna Clark	KBØOUO	Ladmclark@yahoo.com
Vice-President	Joe Mastandrea	N2DLY	n2dly@qsl.net
Secretary	Bob Frankland	KKØRF	KKØRF@cox.net
Treasurer	Tom Huber	WDØBFO	
Property Mgr.	Gary Kroll	KCØQYL	KCØQYL@cox.net
Current Permanent Committees			
Spark Gap Editor	Dar Piatt	W9HZC	w9hzc@cox.net
Asst. Editor	Open		
Asst. Editor	Open		
SG Web page	Dar Piatt	W9HZC	
Club Web Page	Bob McCoy	NBØB	web@bellevuearc.org
Education	Bruce Reitan	KYØZ	Bdreitan@cox.net
Repeater	Bill Venter	KGØAR	Trustee
	Bob McFarland	WØOXD	Chair
	Tom Huber	WDØBFO	Tech.
Social	Open		
Courtesy Committee	Wayne Jorns	KE6DZD	
Recruiting/Marketing	Ladonna Clark	KBØOUO	Ladmclark@yahoo.com
Additional Standing Committees:	Joe Mastandrea	N2DLY	
Events Committee	Open		
Publicity Committee	Joe Mastandrea	N2DLY	

All right now, it is 2006. New year, new contest. Send me your articles and get a chance at a free one years membership.

the contest is open to anyone interested in writing an Article about Amateur Radio. To enter, all you have to do is submit an article to the Spark Gap Editor. The article(s) can be about any of the number of interests or the broad topics of Amateur Radio. The Spark Gap Editor does have the discretion of determining whether or not to publish the article and retains the right to not print any article that is inappropriate in language or spirit.

If you are interested, please contact the Spark Gap editor or any of the BARC Club Officers for more information.

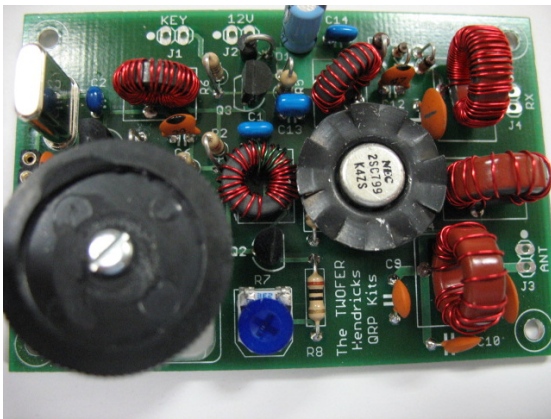
Important Notice!!

Due to costs of postage, members need to pick up their membership cards at a meeting or else they can send a stamped, addressed envelope to Tom to have him send them their membership card.



QRP Notes From Dar.

The TwoFer
from
QRPKits.com



Hendricks QRP Kits is now offering the TwoFer. The TwoFer was originally designed for the QRP ARCI by John Collins and Mike Michael about 20 years ago. Recently Richard Fisher, KI6SN, revisited the kit and updated it so that it would meet current FCC specs. 40, 30 and 20 meter versions of the kit are available with instructions included to get it on 80, or 15 or even 10 meters.

The cost of the kit is \$20.00 plus \$4.00 S&H.

For more information, Visit
<http://www.qrpkits.com>

Hendricks QRP Kits
862 Frank Ave
Dos Palos, CA 93620

THE AMATEUR'S CODE

Paul M. Segal W9EEA (1928)

The Radio Amateur is:

CONSIDERATE... never knowingly operates in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

LOYAL... offers loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local clubs and the American Radio Relay League, through which Amateur Radio in the United States is represented nationally and internationally.

PROGRESSIVE... with knowledge abreast of science, a well-built and efficient station and operation above reproach.

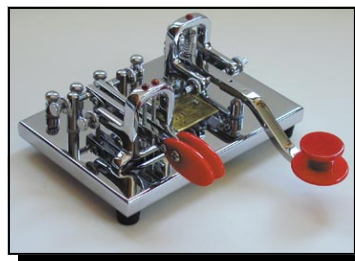
FRIENDLY... slow and patient operating when requested; friendly advice and counsel to the beginner; kindly assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur spirit.

BALANCED... radio is an avocation, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school, or community.

PATRIOTIC... station and skill always ready for service to country and community

For more information on QRP,
contact me at w9hzc@cox.net
Or visit our local QRP group site at -
<http://www.qsl.net/hbqrp> -

de W9HZC—Dar.



ARC Board Meeting Minutes

B.A.R.C Oct. 2006 Board Meeting

The board met on October 12, 2006 at Wendy's on Galvin Road, Bellevue Nebraska.

The following board members were present:

Vice President – N2DLY, Joe Mastandrea

Secretary – KKØRF, Bob Frankland

Also present:

NBØB – Bob McCoy

KYØZ – Bruce Reitan.

Joe called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM.

The minutes of the September Board meeting were reviewed and approved by voice vote.

The secretary read the financial report. The report was approved by voice vote.

The vice-president signed the letter requesting a continuation of the lease of the Masonic Lodge dining hall for 2007 and it was mailed on Friday, October 13, 2006.

Bruce (KYØZ) reported that the "A Wellness Family Walk" event went well and that the Arrows to Arrow space parade assistance was uneventful.

Bruce reported that the current license class has two students.

The vice president discussed some of the upcoming disaster drills and reported that the 2007 Offutt Air Show will be on May 5th and 6th.

Motion was made to adjourn and the meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted by
Bob Frankland KKØRF

The October 2006 BARC monthly meeting was held on Thursday the 19th at the Masonic Social Hall on Franklin Street in Bellevue.

The president, Ladonna Clark (KBØOUO) called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The treasurer's report was read by Bob (KKØRF) and it was approved by voice vote.

A nominating committee reported some difficulty finding members willing to run for office in 2007.

Some upcoming events were announced such as:

VE test session will be held on October 21st starting at 1:00 PM at Midlands Hospital.

A Mass Casualty Exercise to be held on October 28th.

The November dinner meeting sign up deadline on November 9th.

The JOTA Outreach scheduled for October 21st and 22nd.

The SACMAR will be operating Special Event Stations on Veteran's Day, Nov. 11th.

Veteran's Day Parade Support. November 11th. Contact KE6DZD to volunteer.

Annual Meeting and Christmas Party December 8th. Members must pre register whether eating or not. Contact WDØBFO, Tom our Treasurer no later than the November business meeting November 16th.

The Offutt Air Show will be on May 5th and 6th in 2007.

John, (N4OWG), reported that the Masons had received and approved leasing the Masonic Dining Hall for BARC meetings for 2007.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Bob Frankland KKØRF



ARC Meeting Minutes

B.A.R.C Oct. 2006 Club Meeting

Tower Height

By Bob McCoy, NBØB

We are often asked in our classes about tower height. Each city has the ability to pass zoning ordinances that govern or regulate tower heights. Here are a couple of examples:

BELLEVUE

AMATEUR RADIO TOWERS: Amateur radio towers and associated antennas which are licensed as amateur radio operators by the Federal Communication Commission are allowed in any zone up to a maximum of 75'. (Zoning Ordinance #2683)

PAPILLION

§ 205-51. Height exceptions.

B. Amateur radio towers and Federal Communication Commission pronouncements.

(1) Radio towers, antennas and other appurtenances operated by licensed amateur radio operators, where permitted and when, may not exceed 75 feet in height. This height has been determined by the City to reasonably accommodate amateur service communications, and further represents the minimum practicable regulation to accomplish legitimate municipal land use regulation purpose, as recognized under published guidelines of the Federal Communications Commission.

(2) Special instances may require that amateur radio tower heights exceed 75 feet to achieve effective and reliable communications. In such cases, the City Council may grant a special use permit to a licensed amateur radio operator for a specific tower height that exceeds 75 feet. In determining whether to grant such permission, the City Council shall consider the federal guidelines contained in PRB-1 (Amateur Radio Preemption), 101 FCC 2d (1985); codified at CFR Section 97.15(e).

(3) Such radio towers shall not be located within any front yard of the primary use.

COVENANTS AND RESTRICTIONS

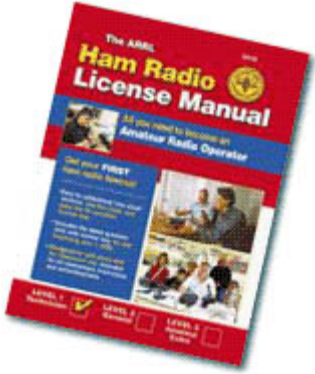
This is usually where the biggest problems are. Developers and home owner associations often impose excessively restrictive rules on antenna structures. This is all under the guise of maintaining property values. When covenants and restrictions address external antennas, there is almost never an exception for amateur radio, or any recognition of the public safety aspects. Any changes here will be painful, protracted and possibly expensive if taken to court.

WHAT ABOUT WHERE I LIVE?

Always do your homework first. Before you go off pricing that expensive tower, know what your city allows. And if you live in a neighborhood with covenants and restrictions, make sure you know what you signed. You will probably need a construction permit to put up your tower, so check with the city clerk. And don't forget to check with your insurance company to see if the tower changes your coverage. If you live near an airfield like Offutt, Millard, Eppley or Council Bluffs, there may be additional height restrictions if you are near the flight path.



Jim KG0RD in the woods at Hummel Park for the Full Moon.



Become a HAM

Breaking News

We have another new ham. His name is Scott Short from Offutt AFB. He passed his technician test and also passed the 5 words per minute code test. At this time we don't know what his call sign is.

Amateur Radio Licensing Class &

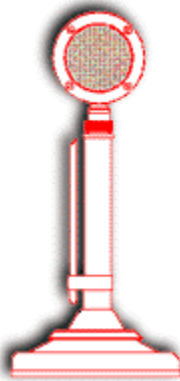
If you've been looking for a new hobby, one both challenging and fun, Amateur Radio may be for you! Although an FCC license is required, the members of the Bellevue Amateur Radio Club (BARC) want to help you get started.

The Bellevue Amateur Radio Club is offering a two-part class and testing for the entry-level Technician HAM license. This license DOES NOT require learning Morse Code.

The No-Code Technician License class

When:

Next class will be **Feb. 2007**



Testing:

Where: Ogram Suite (class); Smith Suite (test) of the Alegent Midlands Hospital, 11111 South 84th (South of Highway 370 at 84th), Papillion, NE

How Much: The cost of the course with the book ("Ham Radio License Manual") is \$25.00. If you already have the book, the cost to attend the course is \$5.00. FYI — The book retails for \$24.95.

Who: For more information and reservations, contact Bruce, KYØZ_education@bellevuearc.org. or call him at (402) 991-7620.

Exam



BARC December 2006 Calendar of Events

(be sure to check the web site for the latest information.)

- Dec 1 (Fri) — **Skywarn Recognition Day**, runs from 6:00 PM local on Friday to 6:00 PM on Saturday, at the National Weather Service, 6707 N. 288th Street in Valley, NE. For more information contact Geri Norris, N5RIG.
- Dec 8 (Fri) — **Annual Christmas Dinner and Meeting** at Farmer B's in Papillion. The social hour starts at 5:30, dinner at 6:30, and the meeting at 7:30. This meeting will include the election of officers for 2007. Make your dinner reservation [here](#).
- Dec 25 (Mon) — Christmas **Holiday**.

VEC TESTS

ARRL/VEC test fee for 2005 is \$14.00. Any questions can be directed to the ARRL/VEC by calling 860-594-0300 or e-mail to "vec@arrl.org".

Local and Not So Local Nets (times are in local time)

Mon-Fri	0730	3.9835	NE Morning Net
Mon-Fri	1230	3.980	Cornhusker Net
Mon-Fri	1830	3.982	NE Storm Net
Mon-Fri	2100	146.76	Eastern NE ARES
Monday	1900	145.29	Southwest Iowa ARES Net
Monday	2000	147.39	Sarpy County ARES Net
Monday	2000	145.13	Boyer Valley ARC Net
Monday	2100	146.94	Douglas County ARES Net.
Monday	2100	145.29/145.37	Heartland ARC, Mills Co. IA
Tuesday	1900	146.94	QCWA Net
Tuesday	2000	144.25	2M SSB Net
Tuesday	2000	145.45	Omaha DX Association Net
Tuesday	2100	145.130	Washington County ARES Net
Wednesday	1900	146.67	Dodge County ARES Net
Wednesday	2000	145.31	Ashland ARC Net
Wednesday	2100	146.82	Pottawattamie County ARES
Wednesday	2100	146.73	Nebraska City, NE ARES
Thursday	1900	28.200	10M CW Net
Thursday	2000	145.115	Handi-Hams Net
Thursday	2030	443.450 / 443.225	Plattsmouth ARC Net
Thursday	2100	434/421.25	ATV Net
Saturday	0930	7.047	4 State QRP CW net
Saturday	1000	145.115	FM CW Practice Net
Saturday	1200	146.82	Swap Net.
Sunday	0800	3.901	3900 Club Trader Net
Sunday	0900	3.896	3900 Club Net
Sunday	0930	3.955	QCWA Net
Sunday	1900	28.125	Slow Speed CW Net
Sunday	1900	28.400	10M Phone Net
Sunday	2000	145.09	Packet Net on KE6DZD BBS
Sunday	2000	145.235	Sarpy RACES Net.
Sunday	2100	146.94	Midlands ARES Net
Sunday	2100	3.982	Midlands ARES HF Net (+/- 5 kc's)
Sunday	2100	434/421.25	ATV Net
Sunday	2100	145.37/145.29	Heartland ARC Newsline

BARC

**Bellevue ARC, Inc
C/O Tom Huber, WDØBFO
7518 Chandler Hills Dr.
Bellevue, NE. 68147-2108**

Label here

We are on the web
<http://www.bellevuearc.org>

Meeting Directions

Bellevue Masonic Lodge dining hall, 1908 Franklin St. Directly west of Washington Park on Franklin St. Small parking lot on south side of building. Suggest keeping some spaces open for handicapped members. Plenty of on-street parking.

Directions from the west: go east on Hwy 370. Keep following signs for Hwy 370. Turn left (north) at 2nd traffic light on Mission St. in Olde Town. Lodge will be on your left.

Directions from Great Western Bank (old meeting location): go east on Harvel Drive. Keep going east until road changes into Franklin St. going south. Continue south for several blocks. Lodge will be on your right.

What's Happening Locally

- ◆ B.A.R.C. Repeater meeting @ 7:00 PM Thursday of Board meeting at a place to be announced monthly until a permanent site is decided upon.
 - ◆ B.A.R.C. Board meeting @ 7:30 PM 2nd Thursday each month at a place to be announced monthly until a permanent site is decided upon.
 - ◆ B.A.R.C. Club meeting @ 7:30 PM 3rd Thursday each month (except DEC) at the Bellevue Masonic Lodge dining hall, 1908 Franklin St. in Bellevue
 - ◆ Lunch @ 11:30 daily Mon-Fri at Wendys on Galvin Rd., Bellevue
 - ◆ Friday night do-net @ 8 PM at Wendys on Galvin Rd., Bellevue
 - ◆ Breakfast @ 9:00 Saturday mornings at No Frills in Bellevue.
 - ◆ Breakfast @ 10:00 Sunday mornings is at Burger King just south of Southroads Mall on Fort Crook Road.
-