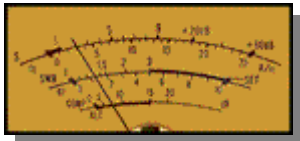




**Meetings:**

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.



**Special points of interest:**

- \* More QRP p3
- \* President's notes p4
- \* General Club meeting notes p5
- \* Board meeting notes p6
- \* New Class Starting p7
- \* Station of the month p8
- \* Test Notes p8
- \* Local nets p9
- \* Local Get-togethers p10



Volume VXX Issue 3

March 2006

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

**Annual Anniversary dinner is April 20th**  
**see info on page 6**

**Congratulations!**  
**To our new HAM's**

Congratulations go out to our three latest graduates of the No Code Technician class, taught by Bruce KYØZ. All three took and passed the Technician license exam on February 18th. They are:

**Kristen Shoemaker of Papillion, KCØVYV**  
**Corrine Grace of Council Bluffs, KCØVYW**  
**Tracey Lorenzen of Omaha, KCØVYX**

Welcome to a great hobby and we hope to hear you on the air soon! The next class starts on April 8th. Do you know someone who would like to attend? See page 6 for all the info.



**March 2006 Birthdays**

Richard	Swig	WAØZQG
David	Finney	KCØQYK



*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			
<b>President</b>	Ladonna Clark	KBØOUO	Ladmclark@yahoo.com
<b>Vice-President</b>	Joe Mastandrea	N2DLY	n2dly@qsl.net
<b>Secretary</b>	Robert McFarland	WØODX	bobmcf@cox.net
<b>Treasurer</b>	Tom Huber	WDØBFO	
<b>Property Mgr.</b>	Gary Kroll	KCØQYL	KCØQYL@cox.net

Current Permanent Committees			
<b>Spark Gap Editor</b>	Dar Piatt	W9HZC	w9hzc@cox.net
<b>Asst. Editor</b>			
<b>Asst. Editor</b>	Tom Huber	WDØBFO	
<b>SG Web page</b>	Dar Piatt	W9HZC	
<b>Club Web Page</b>	Tom Huber	WDØBFO	
<b>Education</b>	Bruce Reitan	KYØZ	Bdreitan@cox.net
<b>Repeater</b>	Bill Venter	KGØAR	Trustee
	Tom Huber	WDØBFO	
	Larry Bailey	WØPYA	Tech.
<b>Social</b>	Joan Bellairs	KCØDTK	
<b>Courtesy Committee</b>	John Sheffield	N4OWG	n4owg@arrl.net
<b>Recruiting/Marketing</b>	Ladonna Clark	KBØOUO	Ladmclark@yahoo.com
<b>Additional Standing Committees:</b>	Joe Mastandrea	N2DLY	
<b>Events/Social Committee</b>	TBA		

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.

New QRP Kit

From  
NorCal  
QRP SMT  
Dummy Load



The NorCal Dummy Load is the perfect kit to use to train yourself to work with surface mount parts. It is cheap, and has lots of similar operations so you can really get the hang of working with surface mount parts

If you have held off buying some of the new kits with SMT parts, now you can try it for a very small investment. The kit includes 44 smt resistors plus 5 or 6 extras, a .01 uF smt capacitor, a 1N5711 diode, and a board mounted bnc connector.

Cost is \$7.50 and that includes shipping. A great deal. Talk to Ray (N5SEZ) or Dar to see how easy it was to build, they know a trick..!!

<http://www.norcalqrp.org>

## 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](mailto:w9hzc@cox.net)

Or visit our local QRP group site at - <http://www.qsl.net/hbqrp> -

de W9HZC—Dar.



## Presidents Notes- Mar 06

We are again "Off and Running", as the saying goes! I have just returned from the March Board Meeting. The Board has finalized the 2006 Fiscal Year Budget to be presented to the members for their approval at this month's meeting. At this time I want to say Thanks to all the members who are Chairperson's or former Chairperson's of a club committee, both last year and this year. I hope when you see one of them; you will give them a pat on the back. They have been instrumental in making budget ends meet, keeping costs of activities affordable, and in raising funds to cover expenses! They work hard all year long, and deserve a great deal of praise for their efforts of not only getting the activities organized, but also their fiscal responsibility that each one has taken on! Thanks, also goes to NB0B, Bob for coming up with a great recruiting idea, which we are implementing on a trial basis. Hopefully he will have samples to show you at this month's meeting.

As usual March is the month that Activities start coming at us from all Directions. There is the Sarpy County Preparedness Fair on March 25th, of which the club is having a table in hopes to recruit new club members as well as drum up some business for the Technician Licensing Class in April! Then there is the Siren Test, which will be a bit different this year due to the conflict with the Weather Symposium on April 1st. This year we are going to try and do some if not all the sirens on March 29th on Severe Weather Awareness Day. The sirens are going to be blown at 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Any remaining sirens will be checked on Saturday, April 1st, but since a lot of people would like to go to Lincoln to attend the Weather Symposium, if we can get the job done on Wednesday, so much the better! Then there is Storm Spotter Training on Tuesday, March 28th, yes the night before Severe Weather Awareness Day! Our Education Chairperson, K, if we can get the job done on Wednesday, so much the better! Then there is Storm Spotter Training on

Tuesday, March 28th, yes the night before Severe Weather Awareness Day! Our Education Chairperson, KY0Z, Bruce is hosting another Technician License Class this month, and on National Licensing Testing Day, April 29th, we are holding a VE Testing Session. And let's not forget that the State Convention is this month in Norfolk! I hope to see you there if my schedule doesn't get any crazier at work!

In May the Activities really get rolling! The club is supporting two bike rides in May. The Bellevue Bike Club has asked us for communications help with their Hub and Spoke Ride on May 13th. On the following weekend is the MS 50 Bike Ride. KE6DZD, Wayne is taking names and e-mail addresses for anyone who is interested in coming out and supporting these events! I can tell you from experience that it is a lot of fun, and if you haven't ever assisted with one of these events, come on out and give it a try!

Club Activities in April aren't the only important things happening. We have a Dinner before the club meeting on April 20th in honor of the Club's Anniversary. We are celebrating 47 years of being an Amateur Radio Club! That's a pretty great milestone! I hope you will all sign up for the dinner and bring a guest or two. You can go to the club's web page to the event calendar for the menu. There will be a sign-up sheet at the March meeting, or you can sign-up by sending me an e-mail with the number of people attending. It's that easy. You pay at the door! The dinner will start at 6:00 p.m. at our regular meeting location.

I have been asked by the Treasurer to remind those of you who haven't picked up your membership cards, that you need to do so. Due to the rise cost of postage, we no longer mail them to you. If you can't attend a meeting to pick it up, please make other arrangements with the Club Treasurer. We have several from 2005 also that need to be picked up. If you don't know if you haven't received your card from last year or this year, please contact the club treasurer or me, we have a list and we would like it to get much shorter than it currently is! If you haven't paid your dues for 2006, they are officially delinquent

at this time, so please get your payment mailed in ASAP!

In the meantime, enjoy the nice weather and I hope to see all of you at this months Meeting on March 16th!

## ARC Meeting Minutes

B.A.R.C February 2006 Club Meeting

The February 2006 BARC monthly meeting was held on Thursday the 16th at the Masonic Social Hall on Franklin Street in Bellevue.

Those that attended at 6:00 pm enjoyed lasagna, tossed salad, and strawberry short cake.

The president Ladonna Clark KBØOUO called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

After introductions, the president asked for a motion to approve the January 2006 minutes as published in the Spark Gap. The minutes were approved by voice vote.

In the absence of the treasurer, Bob (KKØRF) read the treasurers report and it was approved by voice vote.

Ladonna reported that the club was asked to provide communications for the Bellevue Bike Ride on the 13th of May. The members voted to provide volunteers.

The audit committee, Frank (AAØZP), John (N4OWG), and Bruce (KYØZ) have not completed the audit of the BARC financial records yet because some members have been ill.

The president announced that the treasurer has asked that a new software program for club accounting be purchased while it's on sale for \$49.00. Ladonna (KBØOUO) moved, seconded by Frank (AAØZP) to approve the purchase. The motion passed by voice vote.

Ladonna reported that, thanks to Bob (NØBOB) who did the paper work, BARC has official Special Service Club status with the ARRL renewed until February 14, 2008.

Bruce (KYØZ) reported that he has reserved two rooms at Midlands for the VE test on February 29th.

Ladonna asked for volunteers to work the tables at the Emergency Preparedness Fair on March 25th from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. recruiting new Amateur Radio Operators and club members. BARC is planning a class in April. Possible dates are April 8th and 22nd.

Rick Wilson (WØKT) reported on changes in Field Day rules that could result in the club earning additional points by setting up a station to allow visitors to make contacts with the help of a control operator. Also the club would like to invite boy and girl scouts to participate in Field Day activities.

Ron (NØPOM) reminded the members of the mandatory need for National Incident Management System (NIMS) training that will be required of all participants in an emergency or disaster situation. A NIMS Training class will be held January 26th at the BVFD Training Center. Self training is also available on line at [.http//www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov). The required certification is ICS-100 and ICS-200.

Sid (WØWWH) made a motion to adjourn. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Following a coffee break Joe (N2DLY) introduced guest, Major Edward Moss (NØLJD), who gave a Power Point presentation about the Civil Air Patrol and the New Amateur Radio Club/Station for Youths that just started through the Civil Air Patrol.

Respectfully submitted by  
Bob Frankland KKØRF

## BARC Board Meeting Minutes

BARC Board Meeting February 2006

The board met on February 9, 2006 at Wendy's on Galvin Road, Bellevue Nebraska  
The following board members were present:

President - KBØOUO, Ladonna Clark

Secretary – KKØRF, Bob Frankland

KYØZ, Bruce Reitan – WØKT, Rick Wilson – KGØAR, Bill Venter – NBØB, Bob McCoy –and, WØOXD, Bob McFarland

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

Ladonna moved, seconded by Bruce (KYØZ) for approval of the minutes of the January 2006 board meeting. They were approved by voice vote.

The treasurer was not present so his report will be made at the club meeting.

Ladonna reported that the date for the MS bike ride will be May 21, 2006 and July 15th and 16th 2006.

Ladonna reported that the reservation at Piccolo Pete's was canceled and the December club meeting will be at Farmer B's.

Rick (WØKT) reported that he is searching for a possible new Field Day site.

Bruce (KYØZ) reported that he has three female students signed up for the Technician class.

Motion was made to adjourn and the meeting adjourned at 8:02 PM.

Respectively submitted by  
Bob Frankland KKØRF



## Storm Watch Training

**Sarpy County's Spotter Training** will be held on Tuesday, March 28 at the BVFD Fire Training Center, 3200 Cornhusker Road. There will be two sessions, one at 3 PM and one at 7 PM, to make it easier to attend. Sarpy County ID's will be issued before each training session.



## ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS:

The clubs Annual Anniversary Dinner is Thursday, April 20th! We are celebrating 47 years of existence and that is a milestone worth celebrating!

Location: Bellevue Masonic Lodge Dining Room

Time: Starts at 6:00 p.m.

Cost: \$8.00 per person

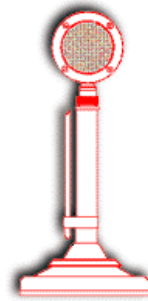
Menu: Ruby Chicken, Cheesy Potatoes, Green Beans with Almonds, Jello with Fruit, Assorted Breads with Butter, Coffee, Tea, and for Dessert, Coconut Cake. Paula Hyland will be catering the meal.

Guests are welcome! Door Prizes, Great Food and Fun! Hope to see you There!

To register, either sign up at the March Meeting, or e-mail the Club Pres. by April 13th! You can pay at the door, but we need you to register so that the cater knows how much food to prepare!



EARN YOUR  
TECHNICIAN CLASS  
AMATEUR RADIO  
LICENSE



The Bellevue Amateur Radio Club is offering a 2-part class and testing for the entry level Technician Class HAM license. This license DOES NOT require the learning of Morse code.

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**“NO CODE” TECHNICIAN LICENSE CLASS**

April 8<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> (Part 1 and Part 2)

Time: 9 AM to 3 PM

**TESTING**

April 29, 2006

Practice test 9:00 to 10:30 AM

Registration 11:00 to 12 Noon

Test session starting at 12 Noon

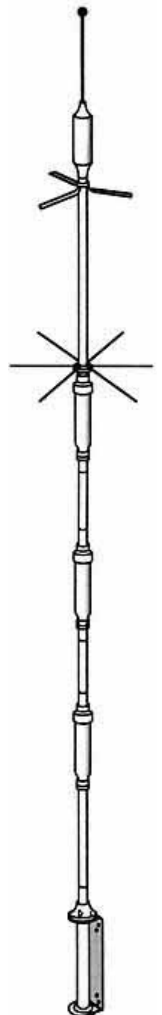
Testing is available for new licenses as well as upgrades.

Location: Smith Suite of the Alegent Midlands Hospital  
11111 South 84th  
South of Highway 370 on 84th  
Papillion, NE

Class size is limited, please make reservation.

Contact: Bruce Reitan (402) 991-7620

Email: [bdreitan@cox.net](mailto:bdreitan@cox.net)



## No Code, Now No Figures

By Bob NBØB

The requirements for a Technician Class license are changing again. OK, maybe not the requirements, but the exam is changing. The current question pool for the Element 2 test has been in effect since July 1, 2003 and is set to expire June 30<sup>th</sup> of this year. A revised pool goes into effect on July 1<sup>st</sup>. The new pool has 396 questions to make up the 35-question Technician license examination.

One of the more noticeable changes will be the lack of illustrations – no diagrams or symbols. The Technician Class exam was never very technical in nature and had only a few simple illustrations, mostly block diagrams. But even those are gone now. In revising the pool, emphasis was put on presenting the pool in a more friendly and understandable fashion for

beginners. However, it was also important to maintain an appropriate emphasis on safety, rules and operating procedures

The content of the question pools is determined by a Question Pool Committee (QPC) selected by the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators. Members of the QPC are representatives from the 12 nationally recognized VECs (the ARRL is one such organization).

The next pool of questions to be revised will be the General Class pool (Element 3). It should be released on December 1, 2006 and become effective July 1, 2007.

For more information or to download the new question pool, go to:

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/pools.html>

<http://www.ncvec.org/page.php?id=333>

**YOUR STATION PICTURE IS MISSING...!!**

**Member  
Station of the  
Month  
(new feature)  
This Month**

**?????**

**Come on folks, surely there are pictures out there somewhere.**

**If you don't have a digital picture, send me the photo and I'll scan it and return it—or—call me and I'll come over with my camera and take a picture for the newsletter myself. OK?**

**With all these members, we should have enough stations to print here for a couple of years.**

W9HZC....

## 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
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
Thursday	2130	145.115	NOBLE Net, Tangier Shrine
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	434/421.25	ATV Net
Sunday	2100	145.37/145.29	Heartland ARC Newslines

**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>

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### **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.
-