



BRAZOS VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



AMATEUR RADIO FOR SOUTHWEST HOUSTON AND FORT BEND COUNTY

JULY 2005

VOLUME 29 ISSUE 7

JULY GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The July General Membership Meeting will take place on Thursday, July 14 at 7:30 PM at the Sugar Land Community Center (directions elsewhere herein). The featured presentation tentatively is about AMSAT, however check the BVARC website the week of the meeting. There will also be a short report about Field Day. Prior to the main meeting, at 6:30, there will be a "debriefing" (lessons learned) meeting about Field Day. If you have any suggestions or observations to share in order to make for a better Field Day, please arrive early to take part in this discussion.

FIELD DAY - A FINE TIME HAD BY ALL

Field Day has come and gone. It seems that everyone had a really good time. There were 8 stations set up so there generally was no problem with anyone getting on the air. We operated 4A which meant that at any one time we could have 4 HF, 1 GOTA and one VHF station on the air.



Doc (KK5UO) & Priscilla Chauvin



Up with a beam

Modes worked included SSB, CW, PSK-31, APRS. FM plus 2 satellite contacts. QSOs were made on all bands from 2M to 160M. 6M was open for a while so we had about 100 "QSO"s on that band. The most productive band was 20M which was continuously "open" except for a short while early Sunday morning.

Food, soft drinks and bottled water were available throughout from early Saturday morning to tear-down Sunday afternoon. The main meal took place around 6:30 Saturday evening. Kevin & Sharon (KE5CDE & KE5CFF) brought pork roast, B-B-Q ribs and rice dressing. Another couple (see pic elsewhere), who are not members, nor hams, but friends of several BVARCers, brought a propane rig and cooked up a pot of jambalaya. B-B-Q chicken, hot dogs and hamburgers with all the "fixins" were served. Several people brought drinks and water.

Many people brought friends and family. The Fort Bend County Sheriff visited as well as several representatives from agencies such as the Red Cross. Several people got to see amateur radio for the first time and others got to share in operating on bands that they are not licensed for (such as HF) while others acted as the control operator.



Pavillion operating site



Soup is on

BVARC probably didn't do so well in the score department primarily because of 2 reasons – a) our perennial CW high scorer was overseas and 2) the operators were more focused on being sure that everyone understood what was going on and shared their station generously (i.e. fun prevailed over competitiveness).



Early morning 6M operations - after an all nighter



Harry (WD5EOF) at the GOTA station

The weather cooperated. It wasn't too hot, was partly cloudy and most importantly, there was virtually a continuous breeze. There was one very light sprinkle for about 5 minutes.

A lot of people deserve thanks – from those arriving before 7:30 AM Saturday morning to those spending all night to those there at tear down Sunday afternoon. Also, many people volunteered equipment such as fans, generators, cables, transceivers, antennas and, of course, those bringing food and refreshments.

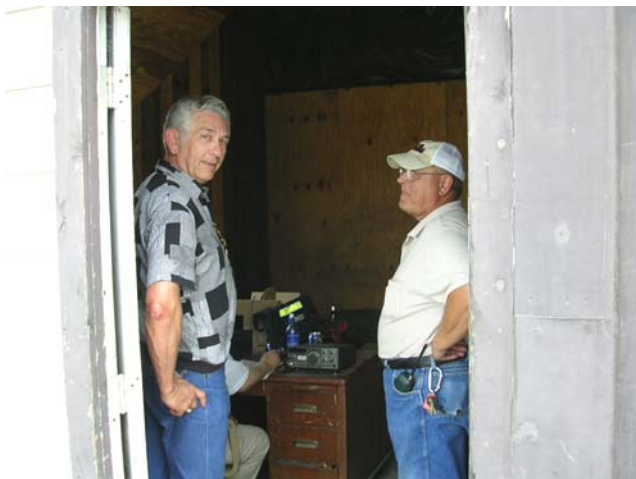
Once again, BVARC extends it's hardest "thank you" to the Richmond-Rosenberg Fire Departments for allowing us the use of their facilities.



Allen (N5AFE) making satellite contacts.



Ryan Knott (visitor) brought his own propane rig and treated us to jambalaya.



Milton Wright, Sheriff of Ft. Bend County, & Ken (KD5RDR)

UPCOMING FEATURED PRESENTATIONS

July – Tentatively AMSAT, but check the website the week of the meeting (after July 10).

August - the ice cream social (Contact Ross – W5HFF)

September - maritime mobile licensing (tentative).

October – undetermined – possibly something about HF - operating, equipment building, QRP, antenna building, or anything associated with HF.

November - the chili supper and elections.

December - home brew night.

JUNE MEETING PICS



**Dave Taylor (W5DST), Motorola Engineer
talking about VHF/UHF trunking**



**Ross (W5HFF) and John (K5IZO)
talking about Field Day.**

President's Corner

Mike is traveling overseas so there will not be a President's Corner this month..

Monday Night NET Updates

Don't forget the Monday Night Public Service Net starts at **8 pm**. 146.88 MHz, PL 103.5 (backup – 145.45, PL –none). The order of check-ins start with mobile units first then fixed stations. If you have something for the net, make sure you let Net Control know about it when you check in. We are looking for Net Control Operators. Contact any officer of BVARC if you are interested.

As this issue of the Newsletter goes to press, we do not have the list of control ops and the number of check-ins. A complete list of recent months will be provided in the next issue

BVARC EATING SCHEDULE:

SATURDAY MORNING BREAKFASTS:

NEW YORK COFFEE SHOP, 7:30a.m., 9720 Hillcroft, Houston.

VIKING DEN, 7:30a.m., 2939 S. Main (US90A), Stafford.

THIRD FRIDAY DINNERS:

July 15, 7:30p.m., THE HICKORY BARN BARBECUE,
11534 Wilcrest in Houston.

August 19, 7:30p.m., PANDA GARDEN CHINESE RESTAURANT
1043 Eldridge Road at Jesse Pirtle Blvd.
In Sugar Land (1 mile +/- N. of US90A).

Remember that the BVARC Newsletter is available on-line at the BVARC website usually several days before you receive it in the mail. Also, the web version is in *COLOR*.

Note: For economic reasons, we are not publishing the calendar. It is on the BVARC website.

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02/03

Upcoming Hamfests

Hamfest info for the next few months. More information at: <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests.html#listing>

TEXAS CITY HAMFEST

July 9, 8AM – 2PM.

Doyle Convention Center, 2010 5th Ave, N., Texas City, TX
Talk In - 147.140 Tone 167.9

Vendors, exhibits, food, contests, swap tables, prizes.
Admission - \$5 at the door.

More info at: <http://www.tidelands.org/hamfest2005pre.jpg>

AUSTIN SUMMERFEST 2005

Friday August 5 (5-9 p.m.) and Saturday August 6,
2005 (8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.)

Red Lion Hotel, Interstate 35 and US 290, Exit 238-A,
6121 North Interstate 35, Austin, TX

Amateur-radio conventions, presentations, and
meetings, including civic, technical, and crafts events,
and discussions, prizes, exams, and swapfests for
ham-radio operators, aspirants, dealers, and their
families.

\$8.00/person for advance registration, but \$10.00 at
the door.

More info at: <http://www.austinsummerfest.org>

THE BVARC Rag Chew Net

By Joe Morgan, K5JWM

May 2005 check-ins

3910 KHz +/-3KHz Wednesdays at 7:00PM

Joe Morgan, K5JWM, Net Coordinator

Just WHAT IS the Rag Chew Net? Well it's a chance for you to get on the low bands and hang out with other BVARC members, as well as hams from around the south central US! WHAT?? Don't have voice privileges? Got a short-wave receiver? Dial in and listen, then check in using the telephone number announced at the beginning of each net.

05/04/05 - N5CPA, K5CEK, KE5SR, WA4TWL, K5LJ, KA5MEI, KE5CDE, KE5CFF, KG5RQ, WA5VRB, KB5SIT.
Check-ins (11)

05/11/05 - K5JWM, K5CEK, N5CPA, K5VRJ, AB5BA, W5HFF, W5UHZ, N5CPA, KE5CDE, KE5CFF, K5LJ, WB5SRN,
WA5VRB, WB5VYR, KB5SIT, WA5TWL, W5UFL, NM5K, KG5RQ. Check-ins (19)

05/18/05 - K5JWM, N5CPA, WB5SRN, W5UHZ, K5CEK, KE5SR, K5LJ, KE5CDE, KE5CFF, NM5K, KB5SIT, N5VXU,
KA5MEI, KD5O, K5VRJ, AB5BA. Check-ins (16)

05/25/05 - K5JWM, N5CPA, K5LJ, KE5CDE, KE5CFF, KG5RQ, W5UHZ, W5HFF, K5CEK, KE5SR, W5RH, KB5SIT,
WA5VRB, K5VRJ, AB5BA, WB5VYR. Check-ins (16)

RESULTS OF THE June 14th
B-VARC AMATEUR EXAMINATION SESSION

by: John Moore, KK5NU

B-VARC sponsored and administered the ARRL's Amateur Radio Examination session that was held on Tuesday, June 14, 2005 at HCC's Scarcella Technology Campus here in Stafford.

MEMBERS OF THE VE TEAM:

Jeff Fussell, KD5VGE
Larry Jacobson, K5LJ
John Moore, KK5NU
George Ontko, KM5VP

Six examination elements were administered during the evening to six applicants. Five new Technician licenses were earned, and there was one upgrade to General class. A total of 6 elements were passed. The overall "pass rate" for the evening was 100%.

Congratulations to all the following who attained a license and/or passed an exam:

James S. Craige	- {KE5FGE}	- Technician
Robert D. Fram	- {KE5FGD}	- Technician
Josh H. Kaufman	- {KE5FGC}	- Technician
Larry J. Robeson	- {KE5FGB}	- Technician
William D. Stone	- KE5CUT	- General
Jeffery A. Walter	- {KE5FGA}	- Technician

Many thanks to all the Team Members and Assistants who volunteer their valuable time and effort each month.

All of us at B-VARC again thank everyone at HCC Scarcella Technology Center for making these excellent classroom facilities available to us for our exams each month.

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Amateur Radio License Classes

Element 4 (Extra Class) is currently being conducted at St Paul Presbyterian Church (Bellaire @ US 59) on Mondays from 7 – 9PM and will continue until early August. Technician and code classes will be given beginning around early September. Dates to be announced in the next month's newsletter and on the web site. Contact the instructors, Ross (W5HFF) or John (K5IZO) if you are interested. Contact info is elsewhere in this newsletter.

Houston Amateur Radio Supply

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06/04

2005 Club Officers:

President:
Mike Hardwick, N5VCX
n5vcx@worldnet.att.net

Vice President:
Allen Brier, N5XZ
n5xz@arrl.net

Corresponding Secretary/Treasurer:
Ross Lawler, W5HFF
w5hff@yahoo.com

Recording Secretary:
Joe Morgan, K5JWM
K5jwm@earthlink.net

One Year Board Member:
Robert Polanski, KD5YVQ
polinski@swbell.net

Two Year Board Member:
Sid Sherwood, N5ZKD
n5zkd@arrl.net

Past President:
Kevin Foto, KD5O
foto@texas.net

Club Happenings:

General Meeting

Second Thursday each month,
Sugar Land Community Center,
226 Matlage Way

Board of Directors Meeting

First Thursday of each month,
Sugar Land Community Center,
226 Matlage Way

Volunteer Examiner Program

BVARC administers Amateur License Exams
on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at the HCC
Scarcella Technology Campus,

10141 Cash Rd. in Stafford.
Contact John Moore, KK5NU

Eating Schedule

Third Friday Dinner at 7:30 p.m.
Location announced in text or the calendar.

Saturday morning breakfasts –

7:30 a.m. New York Coffee Shop
9720 Hillcroft, Houston
7:30 a.m. Viking Den
2939 S. Main, Stafford

Rag Chew Net

3910 KHz +/-3KHz Wednesdays
at 7:00 p.m.

Public Service Net

Monday night on 146.88 (103.5 PL) at 8:00 PM

**Minutes of Brazos Valley Amateur Radio
Club Board of Directors Meeting
June 02, 2005**

President Mike Hardwick called the monthly Board of Directors for the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club to order at 7:45 pm on June 02, 2005 at the Sugar Land Community Center in Sugar Land Texas.

Attendees:

Treasurer/Corresponding Secretary Ross Lawler-W5HFF
Recording Secretary Joe Morgan-K5JWM
Two-year at large Director Sid Sherwood, N5ZKD
Cameron Mitchel-K5CAM
Paul Ruben- N8NOV

Minutes for April, May and June will be presented next month for approval.

Secretary/Treasurer's Report: Will be presented for approval next month. Total number of members is 102.

New Business:

The first item of business was to re-sign the 501 (c) 3 papers because the state sent them back to us.

Order field day pins.

Renew post office box and Cameron has key for post office box. Ross said it will take about \$500.00 for Field Day. Need fans for Field Fay and one more beam.

Emergency Business:

Warehouse space will cost \$65.00 unless we find a storage for free. Sid is storing it for us now.

Old business:

The club has a new call, KK5W. This is to be used for Field Day. Pump, WA5CYI, is in charge of resurrecting the annual club camp out/picnic.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20pm

Submitted by Recording Secretary Joe W Morgan-K5JWM



Monthly Publication of the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club.
Serving Amateur Radio for Southwest Houston and Fort Bend County
Club Call sign – KK5W
BVARC Website: <http://www.hal-pc.org/~bvarc>
Editor: John Chauvin, K5IZO, k5izo@yahoo.com
Production Team: Cameron Mitchell, K5CAM, k5cam@arrl.net
Claude Sessions, K5HFY, k5hfy@arrl.net

Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club (BVARC) was organized in 1978, primarily as an emergency communications group available to assist the communities of Missouri City and Stafford when required. Since that time, **BVARC** has grown and expanded its activities to become the most active amateur radio club in the Southwest Houston and Fort Bend County.

Today **BVARC** is truly a general interest amateur radio club along with an impressive record of public service. The American Radio Relay League (ARRL) has recognized the club's commitment of service with the coveted status of Special Services Club. We are proud of our members who represent some of the finest in amateur radio. Membership is not limited to licensed operators, but is open to anyone with an interest in amateur radio. Club meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Sugar Land Community Center, 226 Matlege Way. Talk-in assistance for the club meeting is available on the 146.880 repeater (minus offset, 103.5 tone). General membership dues are \$20.00 per year, with student dues \$10.00 per year, additional family members \$2.00 per member per year and life membership \$160.00.

BVARC also administers amateur radio license exams on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at the Houston Community College's Scarcella campus in Stafford. A Public Service Net is held each Monday at 8:00 p.m. on the 146.880 (minus offset with a 103.5 tone) repeater and a rag chew net is held each Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. on 3910 KHz +/- 3 KHz.

To obtain information about joining **BVARC** or its activities contact the club's "Elmer", Ross Lawler, W5HFF at 281-342-3340 or w5hff@yahoo.com or the BVARC website at www.hal-pc.org/~bvarc.

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July 2005

**BRAZOS VALLEY
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
P.O. BOX 1630
MISSOURI CITY TX 77459-1630
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

FIRST CLASS POSTAGE

General Membership Meeting – Thursday, 7:30, July 14.

If your mailing label is highlighted in color its time to renew your membership!