



BRAZOS VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



AMATEUR RADIO FOR SOUTHWEST HOUSTON AND FORT BEND COUNTY

SEPTEMBER 2005

VOLUME 29 ISSUE 9

SEPTEMBER GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The featured speaker will be BVARC member Allen Mattis, N5AFV, who will talk about maritime licensing. Allen has been on many cruises and has originated many grid square QSOs from the high seas. A lot of controversy and misunderstandings prevail regarding what are the licensing requirements.

BVARC PICNIC & CAMPOUT November 12

We are happy to announce that the BVARC Picnic and Campout is back. It will be at Coushatta Recreation Ranch between Sealy and Bellville. It will be held on the "Circle" which is to your left after you cross the dam by the lake. It occurs in conjunction with the Amateur Radio Campers November campout. 146.52 is the normal talk in frequency.

Those wishing to camp in their RV's can come Friday and spend two nights if they want to. The camping fee with a group is around \$14 per night. The little red building just south of the Circle has been reserved for our use.

THE ICE CREAM SOCIAL – A HUGE SUCCESS

The annual Ice Cream Social was a success. This occurred during our regular membership meeting in August. About 55 people attended. As usual, there was more ice cream than you can imagine. Ross brought his homemade ice cream. The next "eating" meeting is the Chili Supper in November.

President's Corner

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

Monday Night NET Updates

As this issue goes to press, this information is not available. It will be included in next month's newsletter.

BVARC EATING SCHEDULE

SATURDAY MORNING BREAKFASTS:

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

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

THIRD FRIDAY DINNERS:

**September 16, 7:30p.m., LAFAYETTE CAJUN SEAFOOD RESTAURANT
10829 W. Bellfort at Wilcrest, in Houston.**

**October 21, 7:30p.m., TIO PEPE'S SPANISH RESTAURANT
5213 Cedar in Bellaire.**

October Meeting Presentation – A look ahead

“Antennas for the 80 Meter B-Varc Rag Chew Net”

The technical presentation for the October 13th meeting will be “Antennas for the 80 Meter B-Varc Rag Chew Net”. The focus will be on providing you with practical information on how you can build and put up an 80 meter antenna in almost any house / property situation and join other B-Varc members on the Wednesday night HF net.

The first part of the presentation will look at 80 meter antennas starting from the radiation pattern required for the B-Varc local HF net, then modeling different antennas and configurations to obtain this pattern. In the second part, the focus will be on building the antennas and how best to deploy one of them in your backyard.

John, K5LKJ and Rick, W5RH promise to keep this presentation informative, but practical, so that you can build an antenna on your own. Detailed handouts will be provided. Come join us for an evening of interesting antenna discussion.

UPCOMING FEATURED PRESENTATIONS

September - maritime mobile licensing.

October – “Design, Build and Deploy a 75 meter antenna for the B-Varc Rag Chew Net”

November - the chili supper and elections.

December - home brew night.

EPO THE ELECTRONIC SOURCE

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FAX#713-784-9740

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www.epo-houston.com

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5401 LIPAN
HOUSTON, TX 77063
02/03

Upcoming Hamfests

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

HAM-EXPO BELTON, TX

October 1, 2005

Ham Expo -- Bell County Expo Center in Belton, Texas

From I-35 take Exit 292 to the Dome

Doors open at **7:00 a.m.** on Saturday, October 1

VE Testing at 1:00 p.m. onsite

Admission: \$1.00

Parking lot Tailgaters will pay \$5.00 per occupied parking space

Talk-in Freqs: 146.82- (PL 123.0)

More info at:

<http://www.tarc.org/hamexpo/oct2002early.html>

2005 BRENHAM SWAPMEET

WASHINGTON COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
BRENHAM, TEXAS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2005, RAIN OR SHINE

INSIDE ALL WEATHER FOOD CENTER AREA
GATES OPEN AT 7 AM

SWAPMEET RUNS UP UNTIL 2 PM
COVERED AREA FOR TAILGATING

COMMERCIAL DEALERS AND VENDORS WELCOME
LARGE TABLES AVAILABLE TO INDIVIDUALS FOR \$10
DEALER AND VENDOR TABLES FOR FREE

COFFEE AND DONUTS AT CONCESSION STAND

TALK-IN FREQUENCY WILL BE
145.390 MHz (-600) TONE 103.5 Hz

[NOTE: RV HOOKUPS AVAILABLE THRU WASHINGTON CO.
FAIRGROUNDS ASSN. AT **979-836-4112**]
YOU MAY CALL **979-251-8024** FOR MORE INFORMATION

<http://www.alpha1.net/~w5aum>

THE BVARC Rag Chew Net

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 B-VARC 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.

The list of check-ins for July is not available as this issue goes to press. They will be included in the next newsletter.

Editor's Message

It has been about a year since I assumed the position as Editor of the BVARC Newsletter. This has brought me a lot of satisfaction. I wish to reiterate however, that the position I hold is that of "editor" not "writer" nor "photographer." Of course, I create some of the articles, especially the information articles, but I am depending on the members to provide me with material for inclusion each month. Admittedly this issue is "a little thin" and has no photos, but we "take what we can get." With summer concluding, school starting up and other commitments, plus with business travel (such as Mike in Indonesia for more than a month), some of the usual contributors simply could not have the material available in time. We always are looking for good material, so please feel free to send in any ham radio material and chances are that you will see it in the next month's newsletter. For articles submitted, I try to keep the editing down to a minimum to retain the "flavor" of the original submission. The deadline is the 25th of the month.

Tnx es 73, John, K5IZO k5izo@yahoo.com

Results of the Brazos Valley ARC "Second Tuesday" Examination Sessions

July 12, 2005

Five examination elements were administered during the evening to three applicants. One new Technician license was attained; and two Element Threes and one Element Four were passed, with the total number of elements passed being 4. The overall "pass rate" for the evening was 80%.

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

Eric H. Moeller - KC5FOG - Element Three
Joseph Paul Whelton - {KE5FQY} - Technician
William E Veerkamp - KD5TSL - Elements Three and Four

August 9, 2005

Three examination elements were administered during the evening to one applicant. An upgrade to General class license was attained, with the total number of elements passed being 2. The overall "pass rate" for the evening was 66.67%.

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

Joseph P. Whelton - KE5FQY - General

Many thanks to all of 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.

Local Area Special Event Station: Saturday, September 10, 0300Z-1100Z

Fort Bend County Emergency Operators Group (EMROG) will operate a special event station at the First Colony Mall in connection with Fort Bend and Harris Counties Badges of Courage commemorative to honor those who lost their lives during September 11th, 2001. The station will be located in the mall parking lot, generally in the area of the J.C.Penny's store entrance.

Call will be W9E on 7.260 or 14.260 MHz. Talk-in will be on 145.49 MHz.
Guest operators and visitors are welcome.

QSO Certificates will be issued by request to:

KD5HAL EMROG
1055 Three Forks
Katy, TX 77450

Houston Amateur Radio Supply

181 Cypresswood Drive
Houston, Texas 77388-6038
800-471-7373 281-355-7373 281-355-8007/FAX
Monday to Friday 9:00 AM to 5:30 PM
Saturday 9:00 AM to 3 PM

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<http://texasparadise.com/hars/> George DiLetto KD0RW

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
polanski@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 BVARC Board of Directors Meeting

August, 2005

As this issue goes to press, this information is not available. It will be included in next month's newsletter.

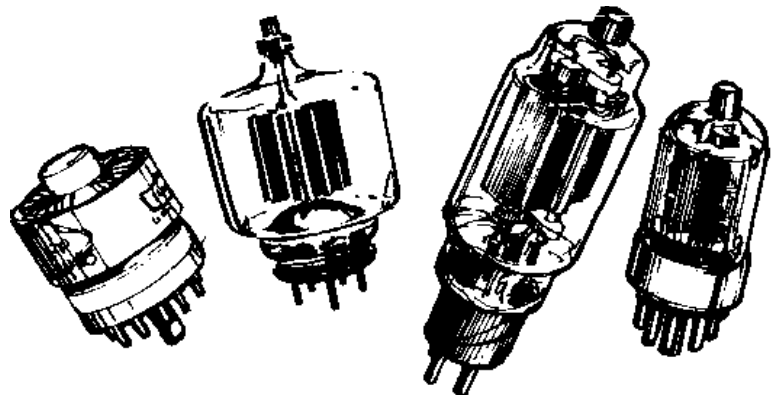
Remember that the BVARC Newsletter is available on-line at the BVARC website usually several days before you receive it in the mail. Also, the web version is in color.

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

Astronomy Day - BVARC Field Station: October 22, 2005

Editor's Note: This is a preliminary notice and formally board approval is required and will be addressed at the next board meeting.

Members of BVARC plan to operate a club field station in connection with the annual Astronomy Day at Brazos Bend Astronomical Observatory in Brazos Bend Park. Location and hours are not yet established. It is hoped that the station can be located on the upper deck where the smaller telescopes will be displayed and used for walk-up viewing. Current plans are for a UHF/VHF and HF station pair operating from commercial power. This effort is intended to recruit potential new BVARC members and/or new ham radio license holders. Those interested in volunteering should contact Pete Sauermilch at peter.sauermilch@ieee.org.





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 the 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, addition 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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September 2005

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

FIRST CLASS POSTAGE

**General Membership Meeting, September 8, 7:30 PM.
September 10, Fort Bend EMROG public demonstration at First Colony Mall**

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