



BRAZOS VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



AMATEUR RADIO FOR SOUTHWEST HOUSTON AND FORT BEND COUNTY

JULY 2008

VOLUME 32 ISSUE 7

BVARC JULY GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AGENDA

7:30 PM, Thursday, July 10 2008

Sugar Land Community Center, 226 Matlage Way, Sugar Land, Texas

General Club Announcements

Morse and CW Key display from the membership

Field Day 2008 Slide Show and report from N5VCX -- Mike Hardwick

Solar Cycle 24 Update Video – Encore showing

Presentation -- The Joy of CW – Changing Your Mood about the Mode

July Meeting Presentation and Activity.....

The main subject of the July meeting is “The Joy of CW – Changing your mood about the mode”. The evening activities and presentation will look at the history of the Morse code, it’s use in the origins of radio and it’s present use within the hobby. One highlight of the evening will be a display of club member’s code keys. **Please, bring your favorite keys from your collection and show everyone what you use to have fun on the air.** CW is just another mode that Ham’s use. It has it’s idiosyncrasies, but it’s fun to use and will broaden your enjoyment of Ham Radio, no matter what speed you receive and send. So come on out and have some fun with CW at the July meeting.



FIELD DAY 2008 - A LOT OF FUN

It took a lot of planning (I even managed to do some of it!) and a lot of effort but the 2008 BVARC Field Day is over. The scores have not been added up yet but for a 5A class, the club did very well this year. With 2 HF SSB stations, 2 HF CW stations and a combination of a 10 meter/6 meter/2 meter station operating for the 24 hour contest, approximately 1500 contacts were made. Even with poor band conditions, the 2 tri-banders and 2 multi-band dipoles helped keep everyone in contact during the contest. Bill’s WS5H’s 10 delta loop was used again this year but it was put up a little higher using Mike’s N5VCX’s tv news trucks 60 foot mast. The HF stations had the pleasure of air-conditioning this year making the contest much easier to work. The satellite instruction, demo and QSOs were their usual popular and successful activity. We were able to get all the bonus points except for the elected official and the GOTA station.

I cannot begin to thank everyone for their hard work. We had over 45 people come out to the field day site with visits from Fort Bend County Office of Emergency Management, the National Weather Service, and the American Red Cross (they brought their ECRV late Saturday night). I especially want to thank John, K5IZO, Ross, W5HFF, and Frosty, K5LBU for their organizational skills, Robert, KD5YVQ for all his electrical, mechanical and computer work and Randy, AK5G for the wonderful meals. I also want to thank Richmond Fire Department for the use of the fire training field. We have used the location for 7 years and it has been a great location every year.

The next news letter will be a more formal thanks for everyone’s help along with the final results on points. I also want to remind everyone that this year’s field day was dedicated to Mack Arp, W5EET, who passed away the Friday morning before field day. He lost his battle with cancer after a 2 year fight. He will be missed. Again I want to thank everyone for their hard work on making BVARC’s 2008 field day a success.

Mike Hardwick, N5VCX, 2008 Field Day Chairman

**SEE THE INSIDE OF THIS ISSUE FOR
PLENTY PHOTOS FROM THE BVARC FIELD DAY 2008**

President's Message

Frosty is overseas doing his African Safari thing.
Look for his column in next month's newsletter

JUNE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Our June 12th meeting was well attended by about 40 members and visitors at the Community Center. During the first part of the meeting, when we do all the announcements and net reports, we had a bit of competition from the 'live' big band playing next door. However, at 8PM they stopped playing and Bill, WS5H, then chaired a short discussion about BVARC and the direction it is going, the activities we do and what the members want out of the club. Good feed back was presented by all.

We continued on, after the break, with Rick, W5RH, showing his "Here Comes the Sun" music video, about the current state of Solar Cycles 23 and 24. Mike, N5VCX gave us a run down on the planned Field Day operations for June 28th and 29th weekend. We ended with a bit of fun, playing Ham Radio Trivial Pursuit. Amateur Radio, electronics and radio history questions were asked. Each round was a multi-question elimination, in order that we got down to one person, who answered the last question correctly, which won the round. The round winner chose a prize from the prize pool. The prizes were old 1950's and 1960's handbooks from the SK estate of Bill Pearre, K5MMP.



Two of the presenters, Rick, W5RH & Big John, K5LKJ with the agenda
&
Mike, N5VCX, giving a preview of Field Day

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George DiLetto KD0RW

BVARC VE Exam Team Semi-Annual recap –

Submitted by John Moore, KK5NU,

Thru the first half of 2008, covering the period of January 1 - ne 30; the BVARC VE Amateur Radio Licensing Exam team held and participated in six (6) exam sessions, including the March Greater Houston Hamfest.

A total of thirty-eight applicants took some fifty-three exam elements; with seventeen new Technician licenses attained; thirteen General class licensed/upgrades and eight Amateur Extra Class licenses over the period.

Thanks to all of the members of the VE Exam Team for their time and efforts and to the Houston Community College Scarcella Technology Campus for the use of their facilities on the 'Second Tuesday' of each month.

OSCAR Satellite Success at BVARC's 2008 Field Day by Allen Mattis, N5AFV

The BVARC satellite team was successful in their efforts to earn bonus points for BVARC's 2008 Field Day. Just prior to a Saturday afternoon pass of OSCAR AO-27 interested BVARC members participated in a presentation and discussion about working OSCAR satellites and specifically what the satellite team was about to attempt in terms of making a contact. This presentation qualified as "a specific educational-related activity" under Section 7.3.10 of the 2008 Field Day rules and earned the club a 100-point bonus.

Immediately after the presentation club members watched as the satellite team sprung into action. Doug Holley, KE5SR, and Darrel Kirk, KC5JAR, operated receiving stations so that the observers could hear the satellite. Allen Mattis, N5AFV, tracked the satellite with a tripod-mounted Arrow beam antenna that was used for the 2m uplink signal while Will Thomas, N5ESA, operated the transceiver. The satellite was in an ascending pass moving from south to north. This meant that only Mexico and the south central US were in the footprint for the first minute or two of the pass and operators in South Texas had a short time window in which to make a contact before the footprint covered the entire US putting hundreds of stations into the footprint resulting tremendous QRM.

Success came early in the pass when Will's second call of "KK5W Field Day" brought a reply from W5NC, the NARS club station from their Field Day site near Tomball. Less than 30 seconds later we heard the Houston QRP club station, W5MSQ, operated by members of the Houston QRP club and AMSAT, made a contact from their Field Day site located near Brookshire. These South Texas satellite operators knew how take advantage an ascending pass, and a minute later it was pure bedlam with tremendous QRM on the satellite.

The satellite contact earned the club an additional 100-point bonus, and the contact was also worth one point, making a total of 201 points for the club from the satellite related activities. Thank you to Doug, KE5SR, Darrell, KC5JAR, and Will, N5ESA, for serving on the BVARC satellite team.



BVARC -- ON THE AIR FOR THE MUSEUM SHIPS WEEKEND 2008

On June 7th and 8th, BVARC operated from the USS Stewart DE 238 Radio Room using our club call -- KK5W for the annual special event Museum Ships Weekend. Arrangements for the 2009 operation were being coordinated, when, out of the blue, permission was granted to "come aboard" in 2008 from both Seawolf Park and the event sponsor, the Battleship USS New Jersey-- NJ2BB. Aboard we went, as a contact with KK5W would be a 2 point bonus. Points were given for both of the vessels within Seawolf Park, the USS Stewart and the USS Cavalla. This made for pileups on the club call.

Of historical note: the USS Stewart DE 238 was built in the Brown shipyard in Houston and is one of two remaining Destroyer Escorts. The USS Cavalla, SS-244, is the submarine that, on her maiden voyage, sank one of the aircraft carriers that participated in the attack on Pearl Harbor. She was also in Tokyo Bay for the Japanese surrender in WW2.

Allen, N5AFV, worked satellite contacts -- 3 on the Cavalla, 26 off the Stewart, 29 total with 2 DX. Good job, Allen, it was FUN! The HF operation logged 180 Q's off of the ship's long wire antenna on Saturday and Sunday. AF5T Dave's SGC tuner and whip antenna were used Friday evening. Among the ships we contacted were "The Mighty Mo" -- USS MISSOURI in KH6 and our own Battleship Texas. Using Norma's KE5NDN Icom 725, members, who made SSB contacts, were AF5T Dave, KC5JAR Darrell, K5NDB David and WS5H Bill. KE5EWJ Cookie, from the Houston S.H.O.T. Chapter of 10-10, came out and put some fine CW contacts in the log. Sweet wrist action on that key, Cookie, TNX. We also made 67 check-in 2 meter fun Q's off of KE5CDE Kevin's VHF simplex node in Galveston through the IRLP. Thank you, Kevin and the High Fivers for that. Thank you to all of those who came out to make this very successful and fun event happen. Special thanks to Master Chief Petty Officer USN ret. John McMichael, Seawolf Park curator, for permission to come aboard.

Seawolf Park has been extensively remodeled and the ships restored. While there, we also noticed fish on the end of the visitors fishing poles. With all of that going for it, we look forward to planning more BVARC events at Seawolf Park.

Bill Stone – WS5H



Our noble organizer, Bill, WS5H



Setting up satellite QSO on the sub.



QSO using the ONLY mod

BVARC and Seawolf Park

by Allen Mattis, N5AFV, Club Historian

The recent special event operation by BVARC members from the destroyer escort USS Stewart and the submarine USS Cavalla in Seawolf Park on Pelican Island during the annual Museum Ships Weekend Event on June 7-8, 2008 was a great success and will hopefully become an annual event for BVARC. Bill Stone, WS5H, did a fantastic job coordinating the event on short notice. This was the first time BVARC members operated from a ship as an official club event, but not the first time the club attempted to do so.

In 1986 BVARC members wanted to operate a special event station from the USS Texas located at the San Jacinto Battleground State Historic Site. BVARC newsletters from that time period do not mention the project. Steve DUNKELBEGER, N5JBL, attempted to coordinate the event, but after several months the project fell apart. Progress reports and discussion at club and board meetings indicated that difficulties were being encountered dealing with the staff at the San Jacinto Battleground State Historic Site. So, Bill Stone, NS5H, also deserves credit for achieving a club goal that was set twenty two years ago. BVARC has now operated a special event station from a museum ship.

The Museum Ships Weekend Event was not the first time a BVARC activity was held at Seawolf Park. In 1988 and 1989 the club had a number of semi-official outings to Seawolf Park. At least three or four fishing/picnic trips to Seawolf Park were made by groups of BVARC members. These trips left Houston on Saturday morning and returned in the afternoon.

The group would sometimes gather at a spot in Houston and travel to Galveston as a caravan, talking among themselves on two meters. When the caravan got out of range of the MERA repeater, they switched to 146.470 MHz simplex. This was the official BVARC simplex frequency at the time and was used at many BVARC events and at hamfests by club members.

These trips to Seawolf Park were family outings with spouses and children. The children especially enjoyed fishing from the pier at Seawolf Park. One of the trips had seventeen people in attendance; however, an attendance of six to eight people was more typical. Some of the more active participants were Steve Gottlieb, WA5OEN, Larry Levy, WD5DRB, and Charlie Prochaska, KG5KV.

Not all of the fishing trips included a picnic but in true BVARC fashion no one complained when a picnic lunch was part of the event. After all, it is often stated that BVARC is as much an eating society as it is an amateur radio club, and that hasn't changed in twenty two years.



FIELD DAY PICTURES







Minutes of May 29th, 2008 Board of Directors meeting (called, unscheduled) of the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club:

Charles Frost called the monthly Board of Directors meeting for the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club to order at 7:30 PM on May 29th, 2008 at Fudrucker's, 11445 Fountain Lake Drive, Stafford, TX. Attending were: Charles Frost, K5LBU; (Pres.); Arnold Knoche, K5ADA (At-Large Dir.); Peter Sauermilch, KD5QPX (Rec. Sec.); Bill Stone, WS5H (At-Large Dir.); Rick Hiller, W5RH (At-Large Dir.); Norma Stone, KE5NDN; Dave Beers, AF5T.

- 1) Out-reach to hams in BVARC zip codes:
 - a) Club has 67 members out of 501 that live in the Sugar Land, Stafford, Missouri City zip codes (77459, 69, 71, 77, 78, 79).
 - b) Frost proposed a mail-out inviting nonmembers to visit a club activity.
 - c) Knoche volunteered to organize cost and how to get address labels.
 - d) Hiller volunteered to create content.
- 2) Digipeater Equipment:
 - a) Sauermilch presented itemized list of major equipment items. Bids had been received from Houston Amateur Radio Supply (HARS), Amateur Electronics Supply (Milwaukee), and Ham Radio Outlet. HARS had the low bid largely because of shipping and LMR400 coax costs. Board authorized the purchase from HARS.
- 3) BVARC Club House:
 - a) Frost proposed the purchase of a HF radio for the club.
 - b) Sauermilch proposed that instead the club should get a donated location on which the club could erect several permanent radio stations and have a location for general meetings. All agreed that a club house should be pursued.
 - c) Frost said that Sessions has mentioned such a location and would look at it soon.
- 4) Meeting Times:

Frost proposed setting the General Membership meetings start time at 7:00PM beginning in August 2008. Board passed a resolution of same.
- 5) Club programs and activities:
 - a) Bill Stone announced that arrangements had been made for BVARC to do Museum Ship Weekend at Sea Wolf Park and submitted paperwork for using the club KK5W.
 - b) Several possible, generalized activities were discussed. Nothing definite resulted.
- 6) Meeting adjourned at 8:49 PM

Submitted by Recording Secretary, Peter Sauermilch, KD5QPX



Coming Up

Katy Flatland Century Bike Ride Sunday 7 am July 20, 2008 Katy Mills Mall, Katy, Texas

<http://www.northwestcyclingclub.com/club/rides/kfc.html>

Bike ride in the Katy/Interstate 10 area starting at 7:00 am and ending at approximately 5:00 pm.

Needing 20 operators to provide communications for break points, medical and SAG vehicles for event support.

Operators will meet at Denny's on Fry road just north of Interstate 10 at 5:00 am for maps, tee shirts and final event information. Talk-in and event will be on the 444.075 repeater (plus offset, 103.5 tone).

If more information is needed please feel free to call me at 832-654-9583

Thanks,

Dave Scott, WD8RZA, Communications Coordinator



Monday Night NET Updates

Don't forget the Monday Night Public Service Net starts at **8 pm**, 145.47 (PL -123.0). 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. Here are recent check-ins with control-ops:

3/24 - 19 - Pete, kd5qpx	4/28 - 20 - Pete, kd5qdx	6/2 - 29 - Cam, k5cam
3/31 - 20 - Sid, n5zkd	5/5 - 24 - Cam, k5cam	6/9 - 25 - Bill, ws5h
4/7 - 20 - Cam, k5cam	5/12 - 32 - Bill, ws5h	6/16 - 25 - Bill, ws5h
4/14 - 31 - Bill, ws5h	5/19 - 13 - Marni, ke5msd	6/23 - 24 - Pete, kd5qpx
4/21 - 14 - Marni, ke5msd	5/25 - 16 - Pete, kd5qpx	6/30 - 21 - Sid, n5zkd



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Eddie Runner Jr. - KB5OBB
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W5EET, SK

Mack C. Arp, W5EET, passed away Friday morning, June 27, 2008. Mack lost his battle with cancer after a 2 years fight. Mack has been a member of BVARC for several years and was the club treasurer for 2 years. He had been active in HF both at his home and mobile as well as occasionally on 2 meters during drive times. Mack also worked on the BVARC Hamfest and was a strong supporter of the function. Mack also belonged to TDXS and the QRP club. He was a graduate of University of Houston with an Electrical Engineering degree. Mack is survived by his wife Kay as well as several children and grand children. One of Mack's favorite BVARC functions is the annual banquet, which he attended this last January. He will be missed.

THE BVARC Rag Chew Net Late May through Mid June 2008 check-ins

3910 KHz +/-3KHz Wednesdays at 7:00pm, John Whiteman, K5LKJ, Net Coordinator

05/28/08, K5LKJ (NCS), KJ5SS, KD5CIU (San Antonio), KD5PNT (LaGrange), K5NDB, WS5H, K5LJ, W5RJA (Schulenburg), N5AFV, KC5JAR, N8NOV, K5HFX, W5UHZ (Beaumont), N5CPA, WB5PNL (Beach City), WA5FMK, WB5VWB, W5RCP (Putnam), W5FZ, W5RH, KA5MEI, WA5CYI, AF5T, K5MJA. (24 Check Ins)

06/04/08, K5LKJ (NCS), N5UOA, K5CEK, KJ5SS, WS5H, KC5JAR, W5RCP (Putnam), N5CPA, WA5CYI, K5LJ, N5AFV, K5NDB, AA5OA, WB5PNL (Beach City), WA5FMK, WB5VWB, K5MJA, K5LLF, K5HFX, KB5ION. (20 Check Ins)

06/11/08, K5LKJ (NCS), K5CEK, N5CPA, W5UHZ (Beaumont), WS5H, K5NDB, KC5JAR, K5LJ, W5RCP (Putnam), N5AFV, WB5PNL (Beach City), K5CAM, K5LBU, W5RH, KE5UKI (Lake Charles, LA), AF5T. (16 Check Ins)

06/18/08, K5LKJ (NCS), N5CPA, K5CEK, K5LBU, WS5H, W5RH, N5AFV, K5NDB, W5UHZ (Beaumont), KG5RQ, KC5JAR, WB5PNL (Beach City). (11 Check Ins) Conditions: Thunder Storms

Thanks. Regards.
John C. Whiteman, **K5LKJ**



RESULTS OF THE June 10th 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 10, 2008 at HCC's Scarcella Technology Campus here in Stafford.

MEMBERS OF THE VE TEAM:

Dennis Dietrich, W5DDD
John Moore, KK5NU

Jeff Fussell, KD5VGE
George Ontko, KM5VP

Larry Jacobson, K5LJ

Two examination elements were administered during the evening to two applicants. One new Technician license was attained; and one upgrade to Amateur Extra class, with the total number of elements passed being 2. The overall "pass rate" for the evening was 100%.

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

Mark R. Bamford - {KE7UMV} - Technician
Robert H. Fuglaar - N5BXP - Amateur Extra

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.

..... 73

An Old Newcomer

By Arnold Knoche, K5ADA

I am a 64 year old newcomer to Ham Radio. I passed the Tech exam in June, 2006, the 5 wpm CW exam in November, 2006, the General exam in February, 2007 and the Extra exam in May, 2008. Ham Radio is a great hobby that I wish I had started many years ago. As a child and teenager, I did not have any friends or family members who were hams so I never had any role models to follow into the hobby.

I have found it to be a very diverse hobby with aspects for many different interests; special events, rag chewing, homebrew equipment and antennas, DX'ing, nets, CW, digital, satellite and on and on. I have also learned that hams are not shy about expressing their opinions and don't run away from controversial topics. On web sites like eHam.net, it is interesting to read the sometimes good natured, sometimes nasty, debates. To use, or not use an amplifier? To some, operating a radio without at least a 1 KW amp is a waste of time. (life's too short for QRP?). To others the use of an amp seems to be akin to committing a mortal sin.

And then there is the debate over whether the CW requirement to upgrade to General Class should have been lifted. Wow, don't get them started on that one. Some of those "discussions" got out of hand. But, the debates show interest. If no one cared about the hobby, there would be no debates.

My experience has been short, but I feel that I have learned quite a bit and have tried some, but not nearly all, of the different aspects. Unfortunately for me the aspect that I like the best is DX'ing. I say unfortunately because we live in a deed restricted subdivision, so I will never have an antenna setup to compete with the big boys. I've gotten used to being overwhelmed in the pile ups. Patience is a virtue. If I stay around until all of the big boys have made their contact, then I might get through. It's fun to try anyway and everyone tells me things will be better if solar cycle 24 ever gets here.

So let me finish up with a couple of the high points and low points of my brief time in the world of ham radio.

High Points:

- I wanted to get Worked All States as a first milestone. It took a while, but I got to 49 states, lacking Alaska. That status went on for months, then one afternoon on 20 meters I heard KL7OU and almost jumped out of my chair. My first try, she could barely hear me, so she said let's try back on this frequency in 30 minutes (I suspect she had been through this drill before). 30 minutes later, the QSO was easy and I had my 50 states.
- Was dialing around on 15 meters and heard ZM2M calling CQ. I had worked some European, South American, Caribbean and Central American stations, but had never even heard New Zealand or Australia. I answered his CQ and was the first to get through, no problem. That was neat to think that with my rig and antenna I could be heard 7,500 miles away in New Zealand.
- Talked to a 90 year old lady in England on EchoLink. (I know, EchoLink is not really radio, but at least we both had call signs). It was neat because she was one of the most positive people I have ever talked to. 90 years old and going strong.

Not So High Points:

- Italy!!! It's a great country. I've been there on vacation, but I'm jinxed trying to make a contact. I must have heard 50 different Italian stations, but have yet to get them to hear me. If I can get through to Portugal, Spain, Germany, Lithuania, etc. why can't the Italians hear me????
- CW. My old brain is just not geared to getting good at CW. I passed the 5 wpm exam and have practiced at 12 wpm with some success, but it is always a struggle and is much more work than fun for me. I know many others love the mode, but I think I will have to be a voice ham. (and maybe PSK31) My experience trying to learn foreign languages has been the same.

Thanks for reading this and thanks to BVARC members for your advice, help with antennas, and good fellowship. 73, Arnold



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frosty1@pdq.net

Vice President:

Rick Hiller
rhiller@sdicgm.com

Corresponding Secretary/Treasurer:

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n5zkd@arri.net

Recording Secretary:

Pete Sauermilch
kd5qpx@arri.net

Board Member:

Arnold Knoche
jakadaok@aol.com

Board Member:

Bill Stone, W5SH
dragntow@wt.net

At Large Board Member

(Past President):

Mike Hardwick, N5VCX
n5vcx@worldnet.att.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,
Fuddruckers, just South of the Fountains
Shopping Center on US 59 outbound..

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
jwm@hal-pc.org

Eating Schedule

Saturday morning breakfasts
Third Friday dinner at 7:30 p.m.
Location announced in text of this edition.

Rag Chew Net

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

Public Service Net

Monday night on 145.47 (PL 123.0) at
8:00 PM

BVARC EATING SCHEDULE

SATURDAY MORNING BREAKFASTS:

59 DINER, 7:30a.m., SW Freeway, outbound service road, near Kirkwood.
New York Coffee Shop, 7:30a.m., 9720 Hillcroft, in Houston.

WEDNESDAYS – WEDNESDAY LUNCH BUNCH (Not just BVARC)

LUBY'S CAFETERIA, 10:30a.m., Bellaire Blvd. just E. of Hillcroft in
Houston.

THIRD FRIDAY DINNER: July 18, 2008, 7:30p.m.

THE HICKORY BARN BARBECUE, 11534 Wilcrest, 1/2 block S. of W.
Bellfort in Houston.

UPCOMING FEATURED PRESENTATIONS

July – Field Day wrap up – including lots-o-pics

The Joy of CW – Changing your mood about the mode

August – Ice Cream Social and Ham Radio videos

Sept -- Digital Delights (PSK and other digital modes)

Oct -- The History of Ham Radio Looking Through Our Favorite
Magazines

Nov – Chili Supper, Elections and Ham Radio video night

December – Home Brew Night (with prizes)

Hamfests

(within 200 miles of Houston)

Hamfest info for the next few months. More information at:

<http://www.arri.org/hamfests.html#listing>

Texas City Hamfest

8 am to 2 pm Saturday, July 12, 2008

Doyle Convention Center, Texas City

<http://tidelands.org/2008hamfestinfo.htm>

Over 100 inside tables with tail gating outside.

Transmitter Hunt food and lots of prizes. Visit webpage for more info.

Austin Summer Fest & Texas State Convention

Friday and Saturday, August 1st & 2nd, 2008

Wyndham Garden Hotel, Austin

<http://www.austinsummerfest.info/>

Will be held at the Wyndham Garden Hotel at 3401 south IH-35 near
highway 71.

Talk-in 149.940 (minus offset, no tone)

Contact: Joe Makeever, W5HS w5hs at arri dot net 512-345-0800



Monthly Publication of the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club.
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Claude Sessions, K5HFY, k5hfy@arri.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 area. BVARC is a Non-Profit Corporation classified by IRS as 501-(c)-(3).

Today **BVARC** is truly a general interest amateur radio club 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. 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 7:00 p.m. at the Houston Community College's Scarcella campus in Stafford. A Public Service Net is held each Monday at 8 p.m. on the 145.47 (minus offset, PL 123 tone) repeater & a rag chew net is held each Wednesday at 7 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 see the BVARC website: www.bvarc.org

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JULY 2008

**BRAZOS VALLEY
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
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FIRST CLASS POSTAGE

BVARC General Membership Meeting, Thursday, July 10, 2008, 7:30 PM.

*If your mailing label is
highlighted in color, it's time
to renew your membership!*