



BRAZOS VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



AMATEUR RADIO FOR SOUTHWEST HOUSTON AND FORT BEND COUNTY

NOVEMBER 2008

VOLUME 32 | ISSUE 11

BVARC NOVEMBER GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

7:30 PM, Thursday, November 13, 2008

Sugar Land Community Center, 226 Matlage Way, Sugar Land

Elections and the Annual Chili Supper

Chili is the main subject and verb of this meeting. Now, anyone can bring heated up canned chili, but we would all enjoy it more if you allow us to sample your latest "home-brew'd" chili concoction. The Chili Supper is very popular with spouses and families, so bring them along also. If you do bring chili (pre-heated, please) bring a serving spoon and whatever you need that goes with it, but BVARC will supply all eating utensils, an assortment of libations and condiments: including grated cheese, Fritos, chopped onions and jalapenos. Please notify our VP, Rick-W5RH, that you are bringing some chili. Contact Rick by e-mail at rhiller@sdicgm.com or landline at 832-474-3713

More importantly that night, we will be electing a new Vice-President, Corresponding Secretary/Treasurer, a 2 year Director-at-Large and a 1 year Director-At-Large. Please contact John Moore, KK5NU, at jwm@hal-pc.org if you have any suggestions for, or you would like to be nominated for, any of these positions. Nominations will also be open from the floor (pre-vote casting) -- please ensure your nominated candidate approves.

In addition, there will be the normal assortment of video and slide presentations (new and 2008 reruns) for your pleasure, while you are enjoying your chili.



October General Membership Meeting

Digital Delights (was rescheduled from the hurricane cancelled September meeting)



December 11th Meeting – Home Brew Night Announcement

The December meeting is always enjoyable, as it is a time to bring out your favorite project that you designed or built this year or to see what others have been working on in their home workshops. Ham Radio equipment and accessories is the main focus, but you can bring any other electronic or mechanical gizmo to display. Prizes will be awarded for the top 3 projects (chosen by secret vote) in the Ham Radio category and there will be a 'booby prize' for the non-Ham radio group. Prizes include a 40 meter CW xmitter kit, a Tuna Tin II 30 meter xmitter kit, a Scorpion QRP Club Iambic key kit and, of course, the non-Ham Radio category booby prize.

If you have any questions about the BVARC Homebrew night please contact our VP – Rick – W5RH at rhiller@sdicgm.com



President's Message

Well here we go once more.

John would like to put the newsletter to bed so here is my nickel's worth. This past weekend was a great time to have a antenna and power. The CQWDXSSB Contest started Friday at 0000Z and went till 0000Z Sunday. That is from 7PM till 7PM. It was a blast from the start even though several of us took a long break Saturday morning to have breakfast at the 59 Dinner with the normal group.

There was about 14 of us there and we covered many items of interest to all. Then back to the rig and on with the contest. I worked at least 3 new countries on 160 meters and some on 40-20 and 15. So if you did get on even for a short time write up what you did and tell us all about it.

I understand the Arnold worked so good DX with his vertical and only 100 watts. Tell us all about it. Also Allen N5XZ who is home for a few weeks from KL7 land was heard working in a phone contest WOW. Next month is his contest oh yes also John K5IZO's type of contest which requires one to be able to converse with ones hands. That is the CQWWCW contest for those who don't know. If you want to hear some good cw give a listen that weekend. Of course that is Thanksgiving weekend.

Guys that went out to the Air show this weekend give us a report also. Tell us all about what went on.

The November meeting is fast on its way and I understand that John is looking for some folks to step up and run for an office. We will have the elections and Chili supper that same night. If you are bringing some Chili be sure and let our great VP know so he will have a good idea of how much we will have. Of course you could bring Fritos and other goodies to eat. I plan on bringing a pot of good home made Chili to the meeting.

Well enough of my rambling and time to get this over to the MAN.

CU at the meeting on the 13th of November if not before.

Frosty
K5LBU



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George DiLetto KD0RW

Minutes of October 2nd, 2008 Board of Directors meeting 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 7:11 PM on October 2nd, 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; Cameron Mitchell, K5CAM; David Barber, K5NDB; and David Bogart (N5EMG).

- 1) Minutes for the September 2008 meeting were approved as they appear in the October 2008 newsletter.
- 2) Treasurer's Report was not presented to the Board.
- 3) Old Business:
 - a) Membership report: BVARC has 118 members.
 - b) Digipeater Project: No report on the construction state of progress.
- 4) New business:
 - a) General Meeting October 9th: Larry Jacobson, (K5LJ) still on for digital mode presentation plus a 10 min. Y-Tube movie.
 - b) Request to use Ft. Bend County resources: Sauermilch to contact Office of Emergency Mgt. and ask for update.
 - c) Stone made strong case that something must go forward regarding club digipeater, discussion followed.
 - d) Stone requested information on policy regarding non-participating members. No policy exists.
 - e) Hiller reported that 2009 hamfest plans proceeding without known problems.
- 5) Schedule:
 - a) November: Election & Chili Supper
 - b) December: Home-brew night.
- 6) Meeting adjourned at 7:41 PM.

Submitted by Recording Secretary, Peter Sauermilch, KD5QPX



Monday Night NET Updates

No Monday night net on 10/20 because of net control shortage!! Please volunteer.

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

7/14 - 23 - Sid, n5zkd
7/21 - 25 - Bill, ws5h
7/28 - 22 - Pete, kd5qpx
8/4 - 19 - Cam, k5cam
8/11 - 24 - Pete, kd5qpx

8/18 - 20 - Marni, ke5msd
8/25 - 22 - Pete, kd5qpx
9/1 - 21 - Cam, k5cam
9/8 - 23 - Bill, ws5h
9/15 - 24 - Bill, ws5h

9/22 - 20 - Pete, kd5qpx
9/29 - 21 - Sid, n5zkd
10/6 - 25 - Cam, k5cam
10/13 - 26 - Bill, ws5h
10/20 - 0 - no NC



Coming Up

Novemberfest Metric Century

Saturday, November 8, 2008 7 am to 4 pm San Felipe/Sealy area 15 operators needed for communications
Dave Scott, WD8RZA, 832-654-9583

Bike the Bend Bike Ride

Sunday, November 23, 2008 7 am to 4 pm Richmond/Wallis area 12 operators needed for communications

Mike Hardwick, N5VCX, 713-826-6917

Sunspots, Solar Flux and Global Warming

by Allen Mattis N5AFV

One year ago I wrote an article for the BVARC newsletter about a geologist's view of solar cycles, sunspots, and how global warming might be related to solar activity. I concluded the article with a discussion of how astronomers and astrophysicists believe that warming is also occurring elsewhere in the solar system besides on Earth. During the past year additional data have been published that support a possible relationship between solar activity and global warming. Most amateur radio operators are aware that we went through a two-month period this summer without sunspots. This period of low solar activity resulted in very poor propagation on our HF bands, but it may also have an impact on global warming.

To begin with, the term "global warming" means different things to different people. First of all, some scientists do not believe that the Earth is getting warmer. Historical temperature data in some places on Earth indicate a rise in temperature, and in other places the temperature appears to be dropping. Do you measure the temperatures on land, in the sea, or in the atmosphere? When the temperature rises in one place it may drop in another. Certainly the temperature in the Arctic Ocean is rising and the amount of sea ice is decreasing. I believe that scientists are reaching a consensus that temperatures on Earth have been rising since the Industrial Revolution.

Central to the issue of global warming is determining the cause of this apparent rise in temperature. Just because initiation of the temperature increase appears to coincide with the Industrial Revolution does not prove that man has caused global warming by burning fossil fuel. Al Gore many have been awarded the 2007 Nobel Prize in Peace for his "work" on global warming but he is a politician and not a scientist. As a geologist, I can tell you that the Earth has had periods of warming and cooling for millions of years long before man existed. A number of researchers scattered around the world are currently examining a possible relationship between solar activity and global warming. We, as amateur radio operators, know something about solar cycles and how they affect the propagation of radio waves.

We know that sunspots occur in an approximate 11-year cycle that goes from having very few or no sunspots to having many sunspots. When sunspots are present in larger numbers, the Sun's radiation is greater. This increase in solar radiation causes ionization in the Earth's ionosphere, and thus affects the propagation of radio waves. During times of increased sunspot activity, the Earth's ionosphere will refract radio waves, resulting in improved propagation on the high frequency bands.

We also know that there is evidence that suggests the Sun does not always behave as it has during the last several hundred years. The Maunder Minimum, named after Walter Maunder, an English astronomer, occurred from 1645 to 1715. This 70-year period was characterized by the almost complete absence of sunspots indicating lower solar activity. Historical records indicate that the period was marked by colder temperatures, and in northern Europe this event became known as the Little Ice Age. A similar period, known as the Dalton Minimum, occurred from 1796 to 1820 and was characterized by cold weather and crop failures. Solar Cycles 5 and 6 that occurred during this time period were very weak. By contrast, Solar Cycle 4 that preceded the Dalton Minimum was a strong cycle that lasted 13.6 years. Thus historical data suggest that global temperatures dropped during the low solar activity of Cycles 5 and 6.

An article in the Houston Chronicle (September 23, 2008) by Associated Press science writer Seth Borenstein discussed the current status of research into solar cycles and solar activity. Key sentences from Borenstein's article are:

"The solar wind - a stream of charged particles ejected from the sun's upper atmosphere at 1 million miles per hour - is significantly weaker, cooler and less dense than it has been in 50 years, according to new data from the NASA-European solar probe Ulysses. And for the first time in about a century, the sun went for two months this summer without sunspots... The cause for the sun's slight weakening seems to be a change in its magnetic flux... Normally the sun goes through an 11-year cycle of more, then fewer, sunspots and a similar cycle when it comes to solar wind strength. But scientists said Tuesday the sun is in 'a very prolonged minimum.' Typically a solar minimum lasts about a year, but this low point has gone on since the summer of 2006. It is 'like turning down the heat on a stove,' said McComas, a scientist who used the Ulysses solar probe to document a significantly weaker solar wind."

The bottom line from the article is that scientists believe that solar activity has dropped to a level not seen for perhaps more than a century. This should not be a surprise to any amateur radio operator who operates on our HF bands. Fortunately, now that we are past the solar minimum between cycles propagation should improve. But, what about global warming? Will global temperatures begin to drop in the next few years? Most scientists believe that except for catastrophic events such as a major volcanic eruption most changes in global temperature occur slowly over time.



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The attached article about BVARC's Museum Ships Weekend operation was published in the current issue of the AMSAT Journal. Glad I could get the club a little publicity.

Allen N5AFV

Operating

Museum Ships Weekend Provides Opportunity to Showcase OSCAR Satellites

by Allen F. Mattis, N5AFV, n5afv@amsat.org

When the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club (BVARC) decided to participate in the annual Museum Ships Weekend sponsored by the Battleship New Jersey Amateur Radio Station on June 7-8, 2008 a wonderful opportunity was provided to demonstrate the OSCAR satellites and Amateur Radio. During the weekend event Amateur Radio operators activated radio stations on 76 museum ships worldwide. Most of the museum ships were located in the United States; however, museum ships in Australia, Austria, Belgium, England, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Spain and Sweden also participated. Amateur Radio operators who contacted any of these ships qualified for a lifetime certificate. During the event the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club (BVARC) was allowed to activate club station KK5W from the museum ships located on Pelican Island in Galveston, Texas.

Servell Park on Pelican Island contains a number of USN ships that are no longer afloat but are visible and active museum ships. The destroyer escort USS Stewart (DE-238) is the largest of these ships. The submarine USS Cavalla (SS-244), nicknamed the "Lucky Lady" by submariners, is located approximately one hundred feet to the portside of the Stewart. During the Battle of the Philippine Sea on June 19, 1944 the Cavalla torpedoed and sank the Japanese carrier Shōkaku that had participated in the attack on Pearl Harbor. Because the USS Stewart and the USS Cavalla are located side by side, a contact with KK5W counted as working two ships. Part of a third ship is also displayed in Servell Park. The conning tower or tail of the submarine USS Taang (SSN-639) comprises a nearby exhibit that was dedicated to all Cold War submarines on Memorial Day 2006 by P. G. Klintworth and C.A. McNiel, Jr, former commanding officers of the Taang.

The principal operating location for the BVARC Amateur Radio operators was the radio room of the USS Stewart. The radio room contains a considerable amount of vintage radio gear that is no longer operational but serves as a museum display. The Amateur Radio operators brought along their own equipment but did use the Stewart's log-periodic antenna that has been restored. The radio room operation was supplemented by the use of portable radio equipment out on the deck from both the stern of the USS Stewart and from the bow of the USS Cavalla. It was this equipment out on the deck that was used to work passes of AO-27 and SO-50.

The club made over two hundred radio contacts from the Stewart's radio room during the weekend. Contacts were made with Amateur Radio stations on the USS Lexington (CV-16), the USS Missouri (BB-63) and the USS Texas (BB-35). A few of the participating ships had removed vintage radio equipment that used the AM mode, but the USS Stewart operation used modern SSB equipment. In keeping with the spirit of the event, however, a number of Morse code contacts were made from the Stewart's radio room.

Out on the deck, an Icom W32A HT with an Arrow antenna mounted on a tripod were used to work two passes each of AO-27 and SO-50. A total of 29 satellite contacts were made with stations in fourteen US states and two Mexican states. The Arrow antenna on the tripod drew a lot of attention from visitors to the ship. The night before, a Boy Scout troop had as "overnight" on board the USS Cavalla and a number of the scouts watched one of the satellite passes and asked many questions. Hopefully their interest was piqued enough that they may pursue the Radio merit badge. Most of the scouts who watched us work the pass thought it was exciting to talk to someone through a satellite using Amateur Radio.

It was very enjoyable and rewarding to participate with the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club (BVARC) in the annual Museum Ships Weekend Event. ☺



Figure 1: Servell Park is home to the destroyer escort USS Stewart and the submarine USS Cavalla. (Photograph provided by Claude Selsman, KB6FV)



Figure 2: Allen Mattis, N5AFV, left and Claude Ahl, K4CLM, right found that a strong wind made it difficult to work SO-50 from the bow of the USS Cavalla. (Photograph by Norma Stone, K6MNM)



Figure 3: The stern of the USS Stewart provided shelter from the wind for working an AO-27 pass. (Photograph by Jim Stone, W5JJK)

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THE BVARC Rag Chew Net

Late Early October through Late October 2008 check-ins

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

10/01/08, K5LKJ (NCS), K5CEK, WA5FMK, K5LOT, KB5IF (Pineville, LA), K5LBU, WS5H, K5LJ, K5NDB, AA50A, N0LIE (Liberty, KS), N5CPA, W5RJA, W5RCP (Putnam), KD5JKE (Woodville), K5UAO (Alexandria, LA), W5RH, KB5LKE. (18 Check-Ins)

10/08/08, K5LKJ (NCS), KJ5SS, K5CEK, K5LBU, K5LOT, W5UHZ (Beaumont), N5CPA, K5NDB, WS5H, W5RH, W5RJA (Schulenburg), W5RCP (Putnam), K5JWM, K5LJ, KD5YOU. (15 Check-Ins)

10/15/08, K5LKJ (NCS), K5CEK, K5LOT, WS5H, WA5CYI, N5CPA, K5JWM, W5UHZ (Beaumont), K5LJ, KJ5SS, K5NDB, W5RJA (Schulenburg), N5TGM (T), K5URT (T). (14 Check-Ins)

10/22/08, K5LKJ (NCS), K5LOT, KJ5SS, W5UHZ (Beaumont), K5CEK (T), WS5H, K5NDB, WA5CYI, W5RJA (Schulenburg), K5UAO (Alexandria, LA) K5LBU, W5RH, N5CPA. (13 Check-Ins) (T) = telephone check-in

Thanks.

Regards.

K5LKJ

John C. Whiteman



RESULTS OF THE October 9th 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, October 14, 2008 at HCC's Scarcella Technology Campus here in Stafford.

MEMBERS OF THE VE TEAM:

Dennis Dietrich, W5DDD
Jeffery Fussell, KD5VGE
Larry Jacobson, K5LJ
John Moore, KK5NU
George Ontko, KM5VP

Six examination elements were administered during the evening to five applicants. Three new Technician class licenses were attained; and one upgrade to General class, with the total number of elements passed being 4. The overall "pass rate" for the evening was 66.67%.

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

Donna M. Bennett	- {KE5WQV}	- Technician
Phillip E. Gaines	- {KE5WQU}	- Technician
James D. Greenlee, II	- {KE5WQW}	- Technician
Scott C. Rawlins	- KE5WLQ	- General

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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BVARC Historical Vignettes – BVARC Historical Vignettes – Order of the Key Award

Allen Mattis N5AFV, Club Historian

The Order of the Key Award is the highest and most prestigious BVARC award. The early club newsletters in my possession do not tell how the award originated, but we do know that the Order of the Key Award is unique to BVARC, and that it was conceived by a club member. BVARC was founded in 1977, and the first Order of the Key Award was bestowed on Bob Spradling, W5UBD, in 1980. Spradling, president of BVARC in 1980, was the fourth president of the club.

The first mention of the Order of the Key Award in the club newsletter was in the February 1983 newsletter edited by Stu Lamkin, WB5IGG. At the January 13, 1983 BVARC banquet held at the Swinging Door Restaurant in Richmond, outgoing President Dick Bigelow, WD5CTQ, presented Ron Bolyard, KA5GYG, with the club's third Order of the Key Award. Bolyard served as chairman of the club's Programs and Special Projects Committee in 1982. The inscription on the award read "To Ron Bolyard KA5GYG for his exemplary service and continuous dedication to B.V.A.R.C. during 1982."

The Order of the Key does not have to be awarded every year, and in some years more than one Order of the Key is awarded. A list of the BVARC Order of the Key recipients follows:

Roster of the Order of the Key

1980 Bob Spradling, W5UBD <u>SK</u>	1992 Randy Pollard, AK5G
1981 Stu Lamkin, WB5IGG <u>SK</u>	1993 Bill Dessens, N5KXU - now AA5BD
1982 Ron Bolyard, KA5GYG	1993 Vincent Orlando, WA5ETS
1983 Wade Eilers, WN5TEN	1994 Doug Holley, KE5SR
1983 Steve Gottlieb, WA5OEN	1995 Louis House, KD5GM
1984 Harold Parker, ND5F	1996 Jackie Burton, KC5OHJ
1984 Allen Hanus, KA5RXX	1997 Bud King, N5UOG - now K5CEK
1985 Dick Hagerman, WB5SRN	1998 Claude Sessions, K5HFY
1985 Vance Peterson, N5FLQ	2000 Mike Hardwick, N5VCX
1986 Ray Dillard, WA5F	2001 Kevin Foto, KD5O
1987 George Jolly, ND5E	2002 Cameron Mitchell, K5CAM
1988 Suzanne Borg, KB5BAY	2003 Orin Snook, KB5F
1989 Roland Torres, KB5EQH	2004 Ross Lawler, W5HFF
1989 Jack Van Demark, WN5A	2005 Sam Wilson, N5CPA
1990 Bill Todd-Brown, N5MPN <u>SK</u>	2006 John Chauvin, K5IZO
1991 Allen Mattis, N5AFV	2007 Robert Polinski KD5VYQ
1992 Glenn Edwards, WB4LZG	2008 Bill Stone, WS5H

The Order of the Key is awarded to club members who have made outstanding contributions to the club. These contributions might take the form of a long-term, consistent commitment to service, or might represent an extremely high level of service for a shorter time. In any case, the award represents exceptional service and commitment to the goals of BVARC.

Any BVARC member may nominate a member for the Order of the Key. The nominations must be made in writing, and should include a description of the nominee's contributions to the club. Nominations must be submitted to any BVARC officer or Board member not later than the December regular membership meeting. The President will then poll the Board of Directors secretly to allow them to vote on the nominations. Although any member may enter a nomination, only the Board of Directors does voting. If in any year, no candidate receives unanimous approval of the Board, then no award shall be made that year. The vote by the Board of Directors must be unanimous for the award to be conferred.

We do not know who conceived of the idea for the Order of the Key Award or what circumstances prompted the Board of Directors at the time to establish the award. Even though these historical facts from the very early days of the club are unknown to us, we continue to confer the Order of the Key Award on those members whose service and commitment to the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club has been exceptional and outstanding.



BVARC 2008 ANNUAL PICNIC & CAMPOUT

Picnic: Saturday, November 15th, 2008

Time: 12:00 PM TO 3:00 PM

Location: Coushatte Recreation Ranch

Website: www.coushatte.com See website for driving instructions

Off State Hwy. 36 Between Sealy and Bellville

Entry fee for picnic: None Food & beverage: bring your own

In the unlikely event that it rains, we retire to the meeting room.

Talk-In Frequency: 146.52

Sponsor: BVARC & Amateur Radio Campers

Campout: November 14, 15 & 16 Camping Fee: \$20.00 Sper night, 30 Amp, \$22.00 per night, 50 Amp

Sites have power, water and hookups.

Picnic Information: Call John Whiteman, K5LKJ, 281-530-0432

Thanks.

Regards, **K5LKJ** John C. Whiteman



Austin Elementary School ARISS Contact Now Listed on the Schedule

by Allen Mattis N5AFV

The long awaited ARISS contact for Austin Elementary School in Pecan Grove is another step closer. Scott McKee, NT5SM, the amateur radio contact coordinator between Austin Elementary School and ARISS has received word that Austin Elementary School is now on the list. There are five ARISS contacts scheduled between now (27-Oct-2008) and 04-Nov-2008. All ARISS contacts after that date have yet to be scheduled; however, Austin Elementary is tenth on the list yet to be scheduled. The contact could be scheduled to take place sometime in the next few months.

In order to schedule an ARISS school contact it is necessary that three things occur at the same time. The students must be available, the ISS crew must be available, and the ISS must pass over the amateur radio ground station. About 2 to 3 months prior to an ARISS contact an ARISS mentor is usually assigned to a school and that has not yet occurred. Potential ISS pass times are provided about 1 month before the contact, and the final contact time is selected by NASA schedulers about 1 week prior to the actual event.

Many BVARC members and other Houston area amateur radio operators came forward and volunteered to help with this worthwhile project. We are now in a position where we will soon have to make good on those promises. It takes a number of different amateur radio groups working together to provide the necessary support for an ARISS contact to be successful. Both BVARC and Houston area AMSAT members are needed to provide the amateur radio expertise and support necessary for the ARISS contact. ARISS is sponsored by the ARRL, AMSAT and NASA. The fact that BVARC is an ARRL-affiliated Special Service Club makes BVARC an ideal participant for this project. As further information about the Austin Elementary School ARISS contact becomes available it will appear in the BVARC Bulletin.

2008 Club Officers:

President:

Charles "Frosty" Frost, K5LBU
frosty1@pdq.net

Vice President:

Rick Hiller
rhiller@sdicgm.com

Corresponding Secretary/Treasurer:

Sid Sherwood, N5ZKD
n5zkd@arri.net

Recording Secretary:

Pete Sauermilch
kd5qpx@arri.net

Board Member:

Arnold Knoche
jakadaok@aol.com

Board Member:

Bill Stone, WS5H
dragntow@wt.net

At Large Board Member

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

Club Happenings:

General Meeting

Second Thursday each month, 7:30 PM
Sugar Land Community Center,
226 Matlage Way

Board of Directors Meeting

First Thursday of each month, 7:30 PM
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

BVARC EATING SCHEDULE

SATURDAY MORNING BREAKFAST:

59 DINER, 7:30a.m., SW Freeway outbound service road, near Kirkwood.
NEW YORK COFFEE & BAGEL SHOP, 7:30a.m., 9720 Hillcroft.

THIRD FRIDAY DINNER: November 21, 2008, 7:00p.m. (Note new time)

TIO PEPE'S SPANISH RESTAURANT, 5213 Cedar in Bellaire,
1 blk. N of Bellaire Blvd. & 2-1/2 blks. E of Chimney Rock.

OTHER HAM GROUPS:

WEDNESDAYS – WEDNESDAY LUNCH BUNCH

LUBY'S CAFETERIA, 10:30a.m., Bellaire Blvd. ½ blk. E. of Hillcroft.

WEDNESDAYS – AMSAT & QRP GROUP

PAPPAS BARBECUE, 11:30A.M., SW Corner Westheimer & Gessner.

UPCOMING FEATURED PRESENTATIONS

Nov. 13 – Chili Supper, Elections & Ham Radio Videos
-- W5RH Chili Coordinator / KK5NU Election Coordinator

Dec. 11 – Home Brew Night (with prizes) – W5RH coordinator

January (date TBD but probably the 9th) – Annual Club Banquet and
Awards Night

Hamfests

(within 200 miles of Houston)

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

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

8 Nov 2008

South Texas Amateur Radio Club

Hilltop Community Center

[11425 Leopard Street](#)

Corpus Christi, TX

Talk-In: 146.82 (PL 107.2)

<http://www.starc-corpuschristi.org/>

**Austin Amateur Radio Club Radio Roundup normally held
annually in December has been cancelled.**

10 Jan 2009

San Antonio Amateur Radio Fiesta

San Antonio Radio Club

Schertz Knights of Columbus Hall, [509 Schertz Parkway](#)

Schertz, TX

Talk-In: 146.940- (PL 179.9)

<http://w5sc.org/swapfest.htm>



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.bvarc.org>
Editor: John Chauvin, K5IZO, k5izo@yahoo.com
Production Team: Cameron Mitchell, K5CAM, k5cam@arri.net
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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**BRAZOS VALLEY
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
P.O. BOX 2997
SUGAR LAND, TX 77487-2997
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

FIRST CLASS POSTAGE

**General Membership meeting - Chili Supper and Elections
Thursday, November 13, 2008, 7:30 PM.**

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