



BRAZOS VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



AMATEUR RADIO FOR SOUTHWEST HOUSTON AND FORT BEND COUNTY

JUNE 2009

VOLUME 33 ISSUE 6

JUNE MEETING

The June 11th General Membership meeting will be preparation for Field Day. Kirk, KK2Z, and Jim, N5DTT, the BVARC FD Co-coordinators will be laying out the plans and asking for your help to come on out and have some fun that last weekend in June. We are trying to dig up some good You Tube Field Day videos from around the country, to show folks what other clubs are doing. Also, Rick, W5RH, will be running the 2nd annual Ham Radio Trivial Pursuit game. Prizes will be awarded to the winners. Prizes include 2 ARRL Handbooks, donated by Claude, W5HFF, and other fun stuff. So study up on your rules and regulations, antenna theory, Ham Radio history and other hobby knowledge and see if you can win one of the great prizes. Every one had a fun time last time we did this.

See you there!



May Meeting Report

At the May General Membership meeting we had a great turnout of folks and they were treated to a fine guest speaker. Charlie Lancaster, KT5BBQ of Katy, Texas drove down to visit with us and tell the attendees all about the Hams for Hospital program. We thank Charlie for his time and travel and a great presentation. We hope that some of the club members will become involved in this very worthy group of emergency communication Hams.

Also, Bill, WS5H, gave a quick look at the Museum Ships HF Event happening over the June 6th and 7th weekend. BVARC, KK5W, is going to be on the air from Pelican Island in Galveston; the museum home of the USS Stewart and USS Cavala. Many club members participated last year and Bill generated additional interest. Cool thing is that a contact with KK5W counts as 2 ships, so the boys (and Norma) will be busy that weekend.



Remember Field Day – June 27-28. See article inside this issue.

President's Message.

First of all it looks like we have 2 great guys that are co-chairing Field day this year. Thanks loads for taking on such a job. I have one dipole and ropes along with coax that can be used for Field Day, it is a 75/40 meter one we used last year. I will bring it to the next board meeting.

How many missed the great band openings over Memorial Day holiday. 20 was open to Europe and other places. 15 was even jumping for a while. There is hope after all.

Summer is fast arriving with the heat already here so it is time to get your antennas checked out and ready to work all the stuff you hear. Bill is going to be doing his hamming from Galveston for the folks that collect awards for working ships and it is the first weekend of June. I will be going up to Plano for the hamfest June 11th then on the 22nd will be heading for the 3rd largest hamfest in the world over in Friedrichshafen Germany. Then in the last week of July and first 2 weeks of August will be operating with a group of fellow hams from Lesotho in Southern Africa as 7P8CF. Then get home just in time for school to start once more.

Frosty,
K5LBU



FIELD DAY 2009

Kirk Kendrick, KK2Z, kmkendrick@gmail.com and Jim Burrough, N5DTT, jandpburrough@sbcglobal.net have volunteered to be the Co-Chairmen of Field Day for this year. This date is coming up FAST – the last full weekend in June – June 27 & 28. Once again we will hold it at the Rosenberg Fireman's Training Center. This personally is my (Editor) favorite ham event of the year. As always, we need operators and volunteers. Let's all have FUN! Look for more details on the website around mid-month (June).



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**RESULTS OF THE May 12th,
Greater Houston Hamfest AMATEUR LICENSE EXAMINATION SESSION
By John Moore, KK5NU**

B-VARC sponsored and administered the ARRL's Amateur Radio Examination session that was held on Tuesday, May 12, 2009 at HCC's Scarcella Technology Campus here in Stafford.

MEMBERS OF THE VE TEAM:

Larry Jacobson, K5LJ; John Moore, KK5NU; George Ontko, KM5VP

Twelve examination elements were administered during the evening to eleven applicants. Four new Technician class licenses and two upgrades to Amateur Extra class were attained; with the total number of elements passed being 6. The overall "pass rate" for the evening was 50%.

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

Eric C. Baur	- {KF5BEA}	- Technician	James M. Rollyson	- {KF5BDX}	- Technician
Scott A. Fenwick	- {KF5BDZ}	- Technician	Alan W. Vencil	- KD5WLP	- Amateur Extra
Bryce A. Moss	- {KF5BDY}	- Technician	Robert S. Trahan	- KE5ZFJ	- 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



Museum Ships Weekend – June 6 & 7

Mark your calendars, June 6 - 7, 2009 Battleship New Jersey Amateur Radio Station will conduct an event involving amateur radio operators at over 50 "Museum Ships", this will include both SSB & CW operations from in many cases on-board the 50 museum ships that may include operation of original ship radios over long wire antennas.

Details are at: <<http://www.nj2bb.org/museums/index.html>>

In Texas there will be the Battleship Texas, Submarine Cavalla, Destroyer Escort Stewart, Aircraft Carrier Lexington.

The Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club www.bvarc.org is sponsoring operation from Galveston Seawolf Park using long wire antennas aboard the USS Cavala and the Destroyer Escort USS Stewart on several bands & will include PSK31 from the radio room of the USS Cavalla. Club call "KK5W" will be used from Galveston, operators will work 40, 20, 10 and 6 meters from the site, as well as a few other frequencies. (See the listing of suggested frequencies at the Battleship New Jersey site.).

Documented contacts with call KK5W will count as 2 ships contacted, if 15 or more ships are contacted, logs submitted with 15 different ships will get you a colorful "Marine Ships 2009" 8.5 x 11 certificate in addition to QSL cards.

www.nj2.org/museum/index.html

Howard Bingham
KE5APJ

THE BVARC Rag Chew Net

April check-ins

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

05/06/09, K5LKJ (NCS), W1EBB (W. Monroe, LA), K5JWM, N5CPA, K5CEK (R), KJ5SS (R), W5RJA (Schulenburg), AA5OA, W5UHZ (Beaumont), K5NDB, K5LOT, KB5VYR, WA5CYI, WS5H, KB5JJW (Weimer). (16 Check-Ins)

05/13/09, K5LKJ (NCS), K5JWM, K5CAM, K5LJ, K5HFF, K5LOT, N5CPA, WS5H, W5TOM, K5NDB, AA5OA, KB5LKE, KE5APJ(W5DBA), WA5FMK, WA5CYI, KC5JAR.
(17 Check-Ins)

05/20/09, K5LKJ (NCS), K5CEK, K5LOT, KB5LKE, KC5JAR, K5NDB, W5UHZ (Beaumont), N5CPA, K5LJ, W5RJA (Schulenburg), K5HFF, AA5OA, WS5H, AF5T, W5RH, KB5JJW (Weimer), W5JSU (La Marque), WA5FMK. (18 Check-Ins)

(M) = mobile (P) = Portable (R) = Relay (T) = telephone check-in

Thanks. Regards. **K5LKJ**



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:

2/16 - 11 - Sid, n5zkd
2/23 - 22 - Pete, kd5qpx
3/2 - 23 - Cam, k5cam
3/9 - 28 - Bill, ws5h(94)
3/16 - 22 - Sid, n5zkd

3/23 - 22 - Pete, kd5qpx
3/30 - 28 - Sid, n5zkd
4/6 - 29 - Cam, k5cam
4/13 - 38 - Bill, ws5h (94)
4/20 - 20 - Sid, n5zkd

4/27 - 22 - Pete, kd5qpx
5/4 - 23 - Cam, k5cam
5/11 - 22 - Bill, ws5h
5/18 - 23 - Sid, n5zkd
5/25 - 22 - Pete, kd5qpx



Public Service Events Coming Up

Katy Flatland Century 2009
7 am July 19, 2009
Katy, Texas

Fifteen ham operators needed for event communications. Operators will meet at 4:30 am at Denny's on Fry Road north of Interstate 10 for event information, tee shirts and maps.

Talk-in and event will be on the 444.075, plus offset, 103.5 tone, repeater. If you have any questions about working the event, please feel free to give me a call.

Mike Hardwick
713-826-6917



Houston Amateur Radio Supply

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<http://texasparadise.com/hars/>

George DiLetto KD0RW

BVARC Historical Vignettes – The BVARC Logo

Allen Mattis N5AFV, Club Historian

All BVARC members have seen the club logo that appears on the top of the monthly newsletter. One day it occurred to me that we know little about how the BVARC logo originated, so I decided to do a little research in the past newsletters available to me.

BVARC was organized in 1977 and the first newsletter of the club (Volume 1, Number 1) was published in March 1978. The masthead of the newsletter had a space for a round logo with a large question mark suggesting that club members had already been thinking about the need to have a club logo.



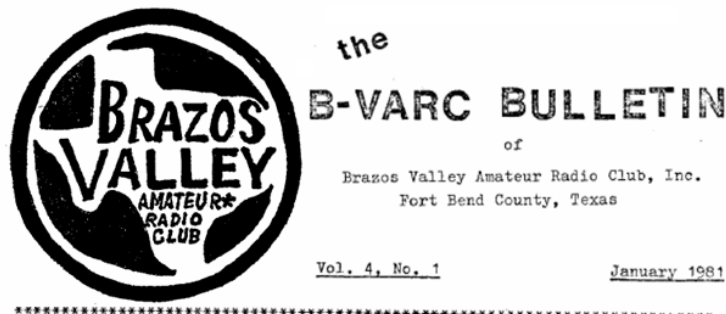
Vol. I No. 1 Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club March, 1978

In August of 1979 the club incorporated, but did not yet have a logo. At a general membership meeting in late 1979 shortly after incorporating, the club discussed and approved the idea of having a club logo. Syd Beckman, KA5GLJ, Alan Shapiro, N5BSW, and Dick Bigelow, WD5CTQ, were appointed to a committee to design a logo.

The February 1980 (Volume 2, Number 1) Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club News announced that the logo committee was ready to show the club samples of logos for members to vote on and select a logo for the club. The newsletter does not tell us about the logos or who designed them, but in the announcement Syd stated “Once we have picked a logo we should not change it so I urge everyone to please be there!!!!”

The next mention of a club logo was in the September 1980 (Volume 2, Number 3) B-VARC Bulletin. Dick Bigelow, WD5CTQ, wrote “I’m happy to report that we’re expecting our club patches to be available at the September meeting.” The patches had been ordered from a company in Taiwan and were expected to arrive any day.”

The first use of the club logo on the masthead of the club newsletter occurred in the January 1981 (Volume 4, Number 1) issue.



The newsletter masthead stayed pretty much the same until February 1984 (Volume 7, Number 2) when the ARRL logo was added. In November 1984 (Volume 7, Number 11) the ARRL logo was replaced by the ARRL Special Services Club logo to reflect approval of BVARC’s application to become a Special Services Club.

In September 1987 a new editor was appointed and the masthead of the BVARC Bulletin no longer displayed the club logo or the ARRL Special Services Club logo. In March 1990 (Volume 13, Issue 3) the club logo and ARRL Special Services Club logo reappeared on the masthead of the newsletter where they have been displayed to this day.

A search through club newsletters has shown us that the BVARC logo was approved at a general membership meeting in 1980. We do not know who actually designed the logo, but the logo has remained basically the same for almost 30 years.



January 1981



February 1984



March 2009



Minutes of 7th March, 2009 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 7:22 PM on 7th March 2009 at Grimaldi's Pizzeria, First Colony Mall, Sugar Land, TX.

Attending were: Charles Frost, K5LBU; (Pres.); Arnold Knoche, K5ADA (Treas./Cor. Sec.); Peter Sauermilch, KD5QPX (Rec. Sec.); David Barber, K5NDB, (At-Large Dir.); Mike Hardwick, N5VCX (Past Pres.); Norma Stone, KE5NDN; Bill Stone, WS5H; Cameron Mitchell, K5CAM; and David Bogart N5EMG.

- 1) Minutes for the April 2009 meeting were approved as they appear in the May 2009 newsletter.
- 2) Treasurer's Report was presented to and approved by the Board.
- 3) New business:
 - a) Stone requested that BVARC make a donation to Seawolf Park project. Board approved a \$100 donation as the Seawolf Park hosts our Museum Ship Weekend presence this year as they did 2008.
 - b) Stone requested that Museum Ship Weekend become a sanctioned club activity and that a small amount of money be allocated to cover drinks and ice. The board approved up to \$25.
 - c) Sauermilch suggested that BVARC make a donation to the Richmond Fire Fighters Association for their benefit on June 6th. The association controls the Fire Training Field that BVARC uses for Field Day. The board approved a \$150 donation.
 - d) John Moore was informed by the building manager of the Stafford HCC campus that they are now charging \$50 for the use of their class rooms. BVARC uses the Stafford HCC for the First Tuesday License Examinations. Hardwick has spoken with the building manager and informed them about BVARC's examinations of HCC students and our nonprofit status. HCC is considering the waving of the classroom fee.
 - e) Ross Lawler is becoming the trustee of the club call, KK5W. Randy Pollard was the former trustee.
 - f) Thank you letters have been received from the MERA and 146.94 repeater operators for our donations of \$250 to each group.
 - g) The Fort Bend Fair Ground has refunded our Greater Houston Hamfest deposit of \$704.50.
- 4) Schedule: The May 14th General Membership Meeting will present,
 - a) Charles Lancaster, Hams for Hospitals
 - b) Stone, Museum Ships Weekend
 - c) Stone, HARC review
 - d) Trivial pursuit
- 5) Meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM

Submitted by Recording Secretary, Peter Sauermilch, KD5QPX

2009 Club Officers:

President:

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

Vice President: (Interim until voted)

Rick Hiller
rhiller@sdicgm.com

Corresponding Secretary/Treasurer:

Arnold Knoche, K5ADA
jakadaok@aol.com

Recording Secretary:

Pete Sauermlch
kd5qpx@arrl.net

Board Member:

David Barber, K5NDB
d_barber@att.net

Board Member:

Ross Lawler, W5HFF
w5hff@yahoo.com

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, 7:00 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 Thursday dinner at 7:00 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 & BAGEL SHOP, 7:30a.m., 9720 Hillcroft, in
Houston.

THIRD THURSDAY DINNER: June 18, 2008, 7:00p.m.

LAFAYETTE CAJUN SEAFOOD RESTAURANT, 10829 W. Bellfort at
Wilcrest,
in Houston. southeast quadrant of the intersection.

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.



Hamfests

(within 200 miles of Houston)

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

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

Ham-Com, Inc

West Gulf Division Convention (Ham-Com 2009)
12-13 Jun 2009.,

[2000 East Spring Creek Parkway](#). Plano Centre, Plano, TX

North Texas Microwave Society, McKinney ARC, et al

<http://www.hamcom.org/>

Talk-In: 147.18+ (PL 107.2)

Tidelands Amateur Radio Society

11 Jul 2009

Doyle Convention Center. [2010 5th Avenue North](#)

Texas City, TX

<http://www.tidelands.org>

Talk-In: 147.140 (PL 167.9) or 442.025 (PL 103.5)



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 1977, 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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JUNE 2009

**BRAZOS VALLEY
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
P.O. BOX 2997
SUGAR LAND, TX 77487-2997
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

FIRST CLASS POSTAGE

**General Membership Meeting – Thursday, June 11.
Field Day – Saturday & Sunday – June 27 & 28**

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