



BRAZOS VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



AMATEUR RADIO FOR SOUTHWEST HOUSTON AND FORT BEND COUNTY

AUGUST 2013

VOLUME 37 ISSUE 8

BVARC AUGUST GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

7:30 PM, Thursday, August 8, 2013

234 Matlage Way, Imperial Park Recreation Center, Sugar Land, Texas

Annual Ice Cream Social

Here in Houston we are fully immersed in the heat and humidity of summer time. Our temperatures have been consistently pushing the triple digits, with nearly a full week of dog days above one hundred.

With summer days like these, we look for any relief we can find. Come to the August General Membership Meeting and indulge in summer time's traditional refresher – ICE CREAM. Come join us for the annual Ice Cream social. Bring your spouse, bring your significant other, bring your kids, bring your grandkids and bring an appetite for ice cream.

September meeting – Texas QSO Party

The September 12 General Membership Meeting will be a presentation on the upcoming Texas QSO party. A great contest for those county hunters among us.

PLEASE NOTE: Beginning is September, the General Membership Meetings will be held at the Eldridge Park Conference Center. Eldridge Park is located at: 2511 Eldridge Rd, Sugar Land, 77478



July meeting recap – Field Day Results

After general announcements, and some words from Ron Litt – K5HM – about upcoming contests, the remainder of the meeting was dedicated to the BVARC Field Day event, presented by Matt Tatro – K5NGU. Matt did an excellent job comparing our operation from last year to the improvements made this year. Matt covered our step up from 5A in 2012 to this years 9A. The new antenna layout with the philosophy behind it were described, as well as accolades for the club's new Triplexer. Matt's presentation included some great photographs of some hard working hams, some hardly operating hams and some hungry hams. Most importantly, Matt showed that a good time was had by those that had attended and that as a team, we pulled off one heck of an undertaking which in the end netted us a pretty good score.

Finally, we learned that our Vice President, Terry Leatherland – K5PGF – due to a change (for the better) in his employment, and new roles with his church and a need to spend more time with his family, had decided to resign from the position. Terry felt that the runner up, who has been quite active in club activities and in Terry's own words is "supercharged with enthusiasm for Ham Radio", should be appointed to finish off the rest of the term. The board agreed and Terry announced that Michael Wrenn – K5WRN – will be the club's VP for the remainder of the term. We wish Terry all the best and welcome Michael to the board.

President's Corner for Jun 2013

By Kirk Kendrick – KK2Z

QST...QST...QST...

August on the Gulf Coast....It's Hot! Really...99 degF at 9pm! Ugh!!

While I was hoping for some cooler weather, sweating outside seems to be where I'm destined. I've been working on running additional power to my barn...to allow dedicated circuits for amplifiers, radios, and all the rest of the "needed" equipment (like A/C!). A new 200Amp panel is waiting on a new underground feed to resolve my barn power problems. I still need to install a few ground rods.... and lightning protection. For now....my solution is that no cables are connected from inside to out when I'm not operating. So, how's your power and ground?? Have YOU installed lightning protection??

What's next? I can't wait for the chance to fill some holes with concrete and plant a tower (or two)! But, a 30' temporary mast with an inverted V will serve for now. My goal is to follow in Nizar K5NM's footsteps and implement a remote rig. My case? About 200' separation by local network from shack to recliner.

August is Austin Summerfest time – a nice Hamfest that is close to my place in the hill country – Just an hour away. <http://www.austinsummerfest.org/> What you need to know is that Summerfest is August 2 & 3, 2013 at the Crowne Plaza in Austin, Texas at 6121 North IH-35 (NE Corner of IH-35N & US 290E). Hope to see you there!

August and September are peak hurricane months – don't forget to charge your batteries, prep your generators, and get your emergency supplies and radio ready. Don't be caught without power AND without ham radio!

And, as I remind you each month, join BVARC on the nets every week!

- Mondays at 8pm CST on 146.94 MHz PL 167.9 is the BVARC Public Service net. Announcements about upcoming club activities and other amateur radio related fun.
- Wednesdays at 7pm CST on 3910 kHz (3.910 MHz) is the BVARC Rag Chew net. You never know who will join or where the discussion takes us!

Get on the Air with BVARC!

73 de Kirk KK2Z



Monday Night NET Updates

Don't forget the Monday Night Public Service Net starts at **8 pm** on 146.94 (167.9). 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:

Due to an illness, this information is not available as this issue goes to press.



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Results of the July 9th BVARC 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, July 9, 2012 at HCC's Scarcella Science & Technology Building here in Stafford, TX.

MEMBERS OF THE VE TEAM:

Jeffery Fussell, KD5VGE
George Ontko, KM5VP

John Moore, KK5NU
Robert B. Tomlinson, N5JSL

Seven examination elements were administered during the evening to five applicants. Three new Technicians, one new and one upgrade to Amateur Extra class license were attained, with the total number of elements passed being 7. The overall "pass rate" for the evening was 100%.

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

Jed L. Aplaca	- {KF5WKY}	- Technician
David J. Brhlik	- {KF5WKX}	- Technician
Kevin J. Clink	- {KD0WDM}	- Technician
Vitaly A. Koynov	- KF5WCG	- Amateur Extra
Sven M. Steudte	- {AF5LI}	- 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 Science & Technology Building for making these excellent classroom facilities available to us for our exams each month.

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Major Rule Changes Announced for CQ World Wide DX Contest

The CQ World Wide DX Contest Committee has completely rewritten the contest rules, effective with the 2013 SSB and CW weekends (RTTY is not affected). "The contest rules evolved over 50 years," said Contest Manager Randy Thompson, K5ZD, in announcing the updates July 1. "Changes in technology, operating practices and enforcement efforts caused the rules to become increasingly complex." The primary goal of the rewrite, he said, was "to make the rules simpler and easier to understand."

The rewrite already has generated considerable online discussion. One change offers a "Classic Overlay" category for single-operator, all-band entries. "The Classic Overlay category is intended for the radio purists who want to participate in the most traditional way," Thompson explained. Entrants will use a single radio and operate without outside assistance, and only the first 24 hours of actual operating time will count toward the operator's score.

Also new is a "Rookie Overlay" category for operators licensed 3 years or less. The Xtreme Contesting and Team Competition categories have been removed. The Xtreme Contesting concept, which only began in 2009, had special rules and a very low number of entries. The Team Competition was not attracting many entries and we decided that we would rather put more effort into promoting the club competition.

The rewrite creates two categories of Club Competition — US and DX. The Club Competition rules have been changed to create two separate competitions; one for clubs within the USA and one for clubs in the rest of the world (DX). The concept of a club being defined by a 175 mile circle is well established in the USA, but has not worked so well in other parts of the world where the contesting population is more spread out. The DX club area is now defined as the country where the club is located AND the area within a 275 Km radius of the club's selected location. For example, the Bavarian Contest club can have members from any part of Germany as well as others that fall within the 275 Km circle around Munich, which may include Austria and Switzerland.

"Checklog" is now listed as a noncompetitive entry category.

Entrants must log contacts as they occur and may not edit their logs after the contest ends. The updated rules also address "unsportsmanlike conduct," such as having an excessive bandwidth, and disqualifications. "Red and Yellow cards have been removed in favor of one action — disqualification," Thompson noted. The SSB event takes place October 26-27, the CW event November 23-24.

You can see the new 2013 rules at: <http://www.cqww.com/rules.htm>

Source – CQ World Wide Contest Committee



Meeting locations for next 5 meetings

Meeting			Location	Start	End
Month	Day	Yr			
Aug	8	2013	Imperial Park Recreation	6:00PM	10:00PM
Sep	12	2013	Eldridge Park	6:00PM	10:00PM
Oct	10	2013	Eldridge Park	6:00PM	10:00PM
Nov	14	2013	Eldridge Park	6:00PM	10:00PM
Dec	12	2013	Eldridge Park	6:00PM	10:00PM



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THE BVARC Rag Chew Net July Check-ins

06/26/13, K5LKJ (NCS), W5TKZ, N5CPA, AA0ST (Dickenson), N5ASH (El Campo), WB6CQO (Needville), KE5OBY, AF5T, VK2AJB (Sidney, Australia)(RCS), W5TOM, W5HFF, W5FLC (Angleton), AA5OA, KJ5SS (San Angelo), KC5JAR (Katy). (15 Check-Ins) Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 109, SN = 91, A = 8, K = 1

07/03/13, K5LKJ (NCS), W5TOM, W5TKZ, WA5CYI, N5DTT, AA0ST/5 (Dickenson)(P), N5CPA, KD5CDM, WS5H, AF5T, KE5NDN(R), AA5OA, KE5OBY. (13 Check-Ins)
 Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 114, SN = 101, A = 4, K = 1

07/10/13, K5LKJ (NCS), W5HFF, KC5JAR (Katy), W5TKZ, N5DTT, N5CPA, WS5H, WA5CYI, AA5OA, AF5T, K0NM, VK2AJB (Sidney, Australia)(RCS), KF5UMC (Abbeville, LA), KE5OBY(T), W5TOM. (15 Check-Ins) Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 120, SN = 98, A = 9, K = 3

07/17/13, K5LKJ (NCS), W5TOM, K5LJ, N5CPA, W5TKZ, KF5TFJ, AA0ST (Dickenson), K5LBUE, K0NM, KK5UO, WA5CYI, KD5CDM (R), N5ASH (El Campo), KE5OBY, KC5JAR (Katy). (15 Check-Ins)
 Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 114, SN = 61, A = 5, K = 1

(M) = mobile (P) = Portable (R) = Relay (RCS) = remote controlled station (T) = telephone check-in
 Come join us each Wednesday. Regards. John K5LKJ

BVARC Historical Vignettes – Ice Cream Social

Allen Mattis N5AFV, Club Historian

We all know that BVARC has a reputation of being as much an eating society as it is an amateur radio club, and the August Ice Cream Social is one of the club's most well-attended meetings. This year's ice cream social will be the 24th time that BVARC has had an Ice Cream Social. How did this popular event start?

The first BVARC Ice Cream Social was actually held in July and not August. The idea was conceived by Bill Todd-Brown N5MPN, who was program director at the time. The June 1990 B-VARC Bulletin contained an announcement about the upcoming July 12, 1990 general membership meeting.

From the June 1990 B-VARC Bulletin, Roland Torres KB5EQH Editor

JULY SOCIAL

by Bill Todd-Brown N5MPN

This is May, soon to be June. It is hot. It is humid. It is going to get hotter and more humid. The Dog Days of another Houston summer will soon be upon us.

By the time that the July 12 membership meeting rolls around, Field Day will have happened and all that will be left of it is memories, mosquito, tick and chigger bites. So what could be more fitting to relieve the itch, relive the memories and beat the heat than an Ice Cream Social in an air-conditioned hall!

Dick, N5OUT, will be hosting, coordinating and begging for help for the July soiree. For those of you that we were unable to bring in on the last feed (March Slumgullion blow-out), please, PLEASE, PLEASE call Dick at 530-0470 and volunteer to make and bring a gallon or two of home made ice cream. Dick needs at least 10 gallons and so far only 3 people have volunteered.

We are trying hard to bring the newer members and the less active members into participation in the satisfaction of being a contributing principal in the club's activities. So, if you have a freezer, notify Dick by phone and bring it full of your favorite flavor to the July 12th meeting.

Please, folks, not only is it a shame to see a grown man cry—it is even worse to see Dick attempt to curl into the fetal position when he is in utter frustration. So call Dick, see Dick run, see Spot run—just volunteer by calling 530-0470.

73, Bill N5MPN

The meeting had a lot of advance publicity on the club nets and by word of mouth over the MERA 145.47 repeater. A total of 77 club members and guests attended the first Ice Cream Social setting a new record for the highest number of people attending a BVARC meeting. Ten gallons of ice cream were brought to the meeting and only 1 ½ quarts were left at the end. Most of the ice cream was homemade and not purchased in a store. Of course there were also ice cream toppings, cakes, cup cakes, brownies, cookies and other similar items to eat with the ice cream.

The program for the meeting consisted of watching VCR tapes of a recent BVARC picnic and of a Houston area remote control model airplane meet. A number of club members brought remote-controlled model airplanes, boats and racing cars to show the attendees. It was an excellent meeting and it was clear to all that the Ice Cream Social should become an annual affair.

The Ice Cream Social was held in July for the next two years, and had a similar format. In 1993, the Ice Cream Social was held in August, but returned to a July date from 1994 through 1997. In 1998 the decision was made to move the Ice Cream Social to August. A number of club members said it was hotter in August than July, and that the Ice Cream Social is a good event to have in the hottest month of the year. The BVARC Ice Cream Social has been held at the August general membership meeting since that time.

Radio Sport Items of Note for August 2013

1. Ten Meter fans, take note –10-10 International Summer Contest SSB; August 3 0100Z to August 4 2359Z
Always a fun event.
See <http://www.ten-ten.org/Forms/QSO%20Party%20Rules.pdf>
2. Warm up for the Texas QSO Party in Sept - North American QSO Party
 - a. CW, 1800Z, Aug 3 to 1800Z, Aug 4
 - b. SSR, 1800Z, Aug 17 to 0559Z, Aug 18
 - c. Find rules at <http://www.ncjweb.com/naqprules.php>
3. Like CW?
 - a. Try the NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint 0030Z-0230Z, Aug 14, 2013
 - i. Sprints are fun because they are short (This one is two hours) and intense. Try it. For the rules, see <http://naqcc.info/sprint201312mw.html>
 - b. SKCC Sprint 0000Z-0200Z, Aug 28
 - i. <http://www.skccgroup.com/sprint/sks/>
 - c. Worked All Europe DX Contest, CW (the SSB event is next month). Sponsored by the Deutsche Amateur Radio Club, so you are ordered to have fun.
4. State QSO Parties are always a good way to hone your contest skills and add a few states to your WAS
 - a. Maryland DC 1600Z, Aug 10 to 2400Z, Aug 11
 - i. <http://mdcqsoparty.w3vpr.org/Documents/MarylandQSOPartyRules2011v2.pdf>
 - b. Hawaii, 0700Z, Aug 24 to 2200Z, Aug 25
 - i. <http://hawaiiqsoparty.org/HIQSOPartyRules-2012.html>
 - c. Ohio, 1600Z, Aug 24 to 0400Z, Aug 25
 - i. <http://www.ohqp.org/adminRules.htm>
 - d. Colorado
 - i. <http://ppraa.org/coqp>
5. Digital Contesting this month includes
 - a. Troy Amateur Radio Association, 10th annual Grid Dip Shindig, 0000Z-2400Z, Aug 3, 2013; Operate RTTY or PSK; multipliers are grid squares.
http://www.n2ty.org/seasons/tara_grid_rules.html
 - b. ARRL Rookie Roundup RTTY, 1800Z-2359Z, Aug 18 <http://www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup>

Special Events in August

1. 223rd Birthday of US Coast Guard Aug 4 – 5 K1CG will be operated by several different stations across the country starting on the east coast and moving west www.qrz.com/db/k1cg
2. International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend Aug 17 – 18. Many historic lighthouses will be on the air. Check ARRL.org Special Events Page for specific locations and call signs



Minutes of July 10th, 2013 Board of Directors meeting of the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club:

Kirk Kendrick called the monthly Board of Directors meeting for the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club to order at 7:03 PM on July 10th, 2013 at Fuddruckers, 11445 Fountain Lake Drive, Stafford, TX. Attending were; Kirk Kendrick, KK2Z (Pres.); Terry Leatherland, K5PGF (V.P.); Peter Sauermilch, KD5QPX (Rec. Sec.); Ron Litt, K5HM (2yr At-Large Dir. & Radio Sport); Travis Burgess, K5HTB, (1yr At-Large Dir.); Eddie Runner, NU5K (Webmaster); Suzanne Runner, KF5GWZ; Cameron Mitchell, K5CAM; John Chauvin, K5IZO (Newsletter Editor); Ross Lawler, W5HFF; Mark Lawler; Michael Monsour, AC0TX; Matt Tatro, K5NGU; Michael Wrenn, K5WRN; and Jerry Muller, KF5EYC.

1. Minutes for the May 2013 meeting were approved as previously distributed by email and appears in the June 2013 newsletter.
2. Treasurer's Report was not presented, Treasurer was absent from meeting.
3. Radio Sport: Up-coming events were presented by Litt.
 - 3.1. Venezuelan independence contest, end of this month.

- 3.2. IOTA contest, end of this month.
- 3.3. Plano ARC Saturday Special Event Station.
- 3.4. Lawler added that the Mighty MO (KH6BB) activating on 7/13/2013 in Hawaii, Pearl Harbor.
4. VP Report:
 - 4.1. July: Field Day and Museum Ships Weekend Review
 - 4.2. Aug: Ice Cream Social, Hiller principal organizer, Sauermilch and possibly Tomlinson assisting.
 - 4.3. Sep: Texas QSO Party Run-Up.
 - 4.4. Oct: TBD.
 - 4.5. Nov: Chili Supper and Officer Election, principal organizer not yet identified.
 - 4.6. Dec: Home Brew Night.
 - 4.7. Jan: Awards Banquet.
5. Old Business:
 - 5.1. Wish List: Members are Tomlinson (not at meeting) Muller and Burgess. Muller reported they are not ready to make recommendations.
 - 5.2. TxPAC: Barber not yet polled by Kendrick. Action deferred until next month.
6. New business:
 - 6.1. Permanent Home: Committee consists of Chauvin, Runner, and Hardwick. (Hardwick appears to be unavailable in the near future and a replacement volunteer was solicited by Kendrick.) The committee has looked at several possibilities of type and location. Runner found what they feel is a strong possibility. A Mr. John Martin (KC6JSM) was in Runner's business and a conversation evolved where Martin offered shopping center store front. (Martin also wants to become a BVARC member.) The offered location will not be free. Costs will be involved, both up-front and reoccurring. A lengthy and lively discussion followed making points both for and against. Following that was the recognition that BVARC needs two budgets going forward, a capital expense budget and an operating expense budget.
 - 6.2. Budget: Because of the discussion above, the board agreed that only once capital and operating budgets are in existence could a financial decision be made on matters as large as renting club house space. The following two actions were resolved to take place.
 - 6.2.1. The Wish List committee needs to do a budget. The cost of any permanent home must be included.
 - 6.2.2. Litt and Tomlinson now comprise the finance committee which is to assist the Treasurer (Tomlinson) to come up with budget numbers. Litt will contact Tomlinson.
 - 6.3. 94 Repeater: Kendrick has talked to owner/trustee and asked if he has what he needs. He was told that right now he needs no outside help. Kendrick told him that if he comes with a need the board will support him. Kendrick asked the wish list committee add a line item to support the repeater.
 - 6.4. Public Service Net: Muller requested that he receive input of events to distribute to the net operators for the Monday PSN. Kendrick deemed that this is not a board action. Members at the meeting pledged to feed information to Muller in a timely manner.
 - 6.5. Astronomy Day: Kendrick has been approached to support Astronomy Day at George Observatory. In the past they have listen to radio objects and do radio contacts. Board moved and approved that BVARC be officially connected with the event. Tatro proposed that we commit to 5 year cycle for such activities.
 - 6.6. Field Day: Tatro voiced disagreement that each year the board needs to authorize participation each year for field day.
 - 6.7. GMM Locations: The City of Sugar Land will no longer accept room reservation requests from BVARC for Imperial Park on Thursday nights starting September 2013. There is a schedule conflict with a city sponsored class. We have Eldridge Park available through the end of 2013. There was a lengthy discussion about alternatives. The board agreed that BVARC should continue to meet at Eldridge Park until a better location is discovered. Muller, Kendrick, and Sauermilch work on future meeting locations.
 - 6.8. Balloon Launch: Kendrick proposed that BVARC support the balloon launch in August. The price of everything going up dramatically. A discussion followed regarding what has been done in the past and what and how much a launch costs. Now the typical launch cost is \$1500 to \$2000. The board approved a motion support the August balloon launch up to the amount of \$400.
 - 6.9. BVARC Equipment Storage: Litt stated that BVARC urgently needs a storage space to remove the club equipment stored in locations all over the Greater Houston area. In his view, this cannot wait for the permanent home motivated budgeting action. He proposed that a new club position be created within the following parameters.
 - 6.9.1. A club member volunteer should be appointed as quartermaster.
 - 6.9.2. Suitable storage space should be secured as soon as possible. His proposal did not contain the immediate request for funds to rent a storage site.
 - 6.9.3. The quartermaster should collect and inventory all BVARC equipment.
 - 6.9.4. The quartermaster should see to the repair of equipment requiring it.
 - 6.10. Vice President Position: Leatherland intends to resign effective the July General Membership Meeting. He recommended that Michael Wrenn be appointed as VP to fill the remainder of his term. Wrenn was the VP runner-up at election. Leatherland has approached Wrenn and Wrenn agreed. Wrenn addressed board, said he was willing to serve. A Motion was made and passed by board that Wrenn be appointed to serve as Vice President to fill out Leatherland term.

Meeting adjourned at 8:23 PM

Submitted by Recording Secretary, Peter Sauermilch, KD5QPX

2013 Club Officers:

President:

Kirk Kendrick, KK2Z
kmkendrick@gmail.com

Vice President:

Michael Wrenn
michael.wrenn@gmail.com

Corresponding Secretary / Treasurer

Robert Tomlinson, N5JSL
rbtswim@gmail.com

Recording Secretary:

Pete Sauermilch, KD5QPX
kd5qpx@arrl.net

2 Year At-Large Board Member A:

David Barber, K5NDB
d_barber@att.net

2 Year At-Large Board Member B:

Ron Litt, K5HM
k5hm.ron@gmail.com

1 Year at Large Board Member

Travis Burgess, K5THB
travburg1@sbcglobal.net

Club Happenings:

General Meeting

Second Thursday each month, 7:30 PM
Imperial Park Recreation Center,
234 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

See in adjacent column.

Rag Chew Net

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

Public Service Net

Monday night on 146.94 (PL 167.9) at 8:00 PM



BVARC EATING SCHEDULE

SATURDAY MORNING BREAKFAST

59 DINER, 7:00a.m., SW Freeway outbound service road,
near Kirkwood.

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

OTHER HAM GROUPS:

WEDNESDAYS – WEDNESDAY LUNCH BUNCH

LUBY'S CAFETERIA, 10:30a.m. to 12:00Noon +, South Post
Oak Road, just south of the I-610 Loop in Meyer Park
Shopping Center.

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>

08/02/2013 | Texas State Convention (Austin Summerfest)

Location: Austin, TX

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Austin Amateur Radio Club & Texas VHF-FM Society

Website: <http://www.austinsummerfest.org>

?October 5? Belton, TX

As this issue goes to press, the Belton (TARC) website has not been
updated, nor is this event on the ARRL Hamfests schedule. It is normally
around the 1st Saturday in October. **THIS DATE IS NOT
CONFIRMED!**





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

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 Imperial Park Recreation Center, 234 Matlage 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 \$200.00.

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 146.94 (minus offset, PL 167.9 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

VOLUME 37, ISSUE 8

August 2013

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

FIRST CLASS POSTAGE

- BVARC General Membership Meeting/ Ice Cream Social – Thursday, August 8, 7:30 PM

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