



BRAZOS VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



AMATEUR RADIO FOR SOUTHWEST HOUSTON AND FORT BEND COUNTY

APRIL 2014

VOLUME 38 ISSUE 4



BVARC APRIL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

7:30 PM, Thursday, April 10, 2014

2511 Eldridge Rd, Sugar Land, 77478, Eldridge Park Conference Center

Navy. It's Not Just A Job, It's A Ham Radio Adventure

This month we continue our series that investigates the interaction between our government and amateur radio. Our guest speakers for April will be Jerry (NNNOGBY), Godik (NNN0HVB) and Phil (NNN0KIR), members of Navy MARS. These gentlemen will share with the group their knowledge of the Navy MARS service: What they do; How amateur radio plays a part; and how to join if you are interested.

Mark your calendars for April 10 and come to the Eldridge Park Community Center to hear a great talk and share in the camaraderie with your fellow radio aficionados.



March Meeting Recap – DXpedition 3DA0ET

In March the BVARC crew met up with the TDXS crew at the Tracy Gee Center to listen as Bob (W5UQ) presented the DXpedition to Swaziland. The presentation gave us a feel for the adventure of taking amateur radio to remote parts of the world.



BVARC Night of Baseball

BVARC will have a night out at the ball park on Saturday, May 10. Come and enjoy some fellowship with other members, and their spouses, of the club.

Details are as follows:

6PM, Saturday, May 10.

Skeeters' Baseball Park, Sugar Land.

Ticket, Hot Dog and Soft Drink - \$18

Remit funds via Pay Pal to: a.caprio@sbcglobal.net

See Ya @ The Ballpark
Art Caprio/KE5OBY



From the President, Bill Stone, WS5H

Greetings BVARC

Our Hamfest was another great success with many good speakers, vendors, demos, an equipment check out table, and the list goes on. I noticed new vendors as well and our Hamfest chairman was able to squeeze a few more tables in to accommodate those new to our Hamfest. Hats off to K5IZO John, Kirk KK2Z, Big Al N5XZ and all of the other BVARC Team Hamfest that made this happen.

Our next sanctioned event is Museum Ships Weekend Event at Seawolf Park. In past years we activated the Destroyer Escort USS Stewart and the USS Cavalla Submarine radio rooms and a park station with our club call KK5W. This year is expected to have over 100 ship's world wide in the event that is sponsored by the USS New Jersey NJ2BB. BVARC call KK5W is a well sought for 2 for 1 ships contact so the pile-ups are amazing. I was the Chairman for the event 5 years and Ron has had the Chairman XO job for the past 2 years and also served as a CO XO prior to that. Ron, K5HM, has done a great job with that event but now must step down to maintain his duties as Radio Sports manager and the expanding duties of his BVARC Board of Directors position.

THIS BVARC SANCTIONED EVENT FIRES UP ON THE 1ST WEEKEND IN JUNE AND THUS FAR HAVE NO CHAIRMAN FOR THE MSWE. Please contact me if you will be the XO Chairman for the ship event. Our member Cookie K5EWJ will help look after the use of the Ship radio room and radio operations so no experience of Navy antennas and the hook up of Amateur radio gear to them is required.

This year our Field Day operations will also need a Field Day Chairman. Matt Tatro K5NGU has for the past years took this position on with great success. Great job Matt and BIG THANKS from the membership. Now that Matt has stepped down it is time for another BVARC member to step up to 2014 Field Day Chairman. The 2014 BVARC Field Day will be exciting, as we will have 2 other clubs joining in on the KK5W contest fun. Again the Texas DX Society TDXS will join us and new to the team is the club ECHO Society. The Red Cross Amateur radio room is being remodeled and can not be activated for Field Day so we gave them an invite and the ECHO Society voted to join in on the BVARC fun.

As I have written this up at the last minute before Newsletter deadline, my bad, I can not tell in this issue of our Newsletter of all the good things our membership have done to expand our efforts as a Special Service Club.

CU all at our next General Membership Meeting

73 Bill Stone WS5H
BVARC Prez



2014 GREATER HOUSTON HAMFEST

As this issue of the BVARC newsletter goes to press, the “numbers” from the 2014 Hamfest are not yet compiled. An overall summary will be given at the April General Membership Meeting. All indications are that we at least equaled, and probably broke, attendance records. The monetary results are discussed at the board meeting which is open to any member in good standing.

We had all the vendors from last year, plus at least Palmetto Antennas. We added about 15 tables and still sold out more than a week before the Hamfest. I will not attempt to cover all the activities in this brief article; these will be summarized at the General Membership Meeting on April 10.

Be sure to see The Prez Sayz article on page 2 for a few more Hamfest comments.

Photos are already uploaded to the website. Thanks to Travis and Cam for promptly getting these to Eddie (thanks) for prompt uploading.

Here are a few photos, but go to the website to see all 249 pix.



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:

12/16 - 22 - Ron, k5hm	1/20 - 28 - Ron, k5hm	2/24 - 32 - Pete, kd5qpx
12/23 - 11 - Pete, kd5qpx	1/27 - 38 - Pete, kd5qpx	3/3 - 24 - Cam, k5cam
12/30 - 16 - Terry, k5pgf	2/3 - 34 - Cam, k5cam	3/10 - 18 - Willard, kd5eka
1/6 - 35 - Cam, k5cam	2/10 - 30 - Willard, kd5eka	3/17 - 22 - Ron, k5hm
1/13 - 30 - Willard, kd5eka	2/17 - 24 - Ron, k5hm	3/24 - 31 - Pete, kd5qpx



Radiosport Items on Note for April 2014

<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/contestcal.html>

As this newsletter goes to press, this article is unavailable. Go to the above link for a contest calendar.



The Radio Hotel – Four Whys of our Antenna Systems – Rick – W5RH

Why does the antenna length vary for the same resonant frequency?

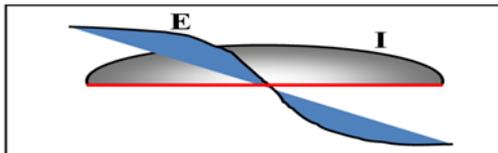
All of us know the formula: $468 / F \text{ Mhz} = \text{Length (in feet) of a } \frac{1}{2} \text{ lambda (wave length) `dipole.....}$ but that typically isn't correct. Sometimes the length needs to be shorter, sometimes longer. It really depends on the environment into which we place the antenna. Is it close to the earth, close to the house, close to power lines or close to the chain link fence? Or is it far away from everything? $468 / F \text{ MHz}$ gets us in the ballpark for the $\frac{1}{2}$ wl length, but be prepared to vary the length (tune it) to obtain the resonant frequency desired at the physical location you place it.

Why does the feed impedance (ZL) change depending on where it is fed?

Another issue with basic dipole antennas is the feed impedance -- ZL. Between 50 and 75 ohms is the feed impedance range of a dipole. These values are measured at the center of the dipole, which is where we typically feed (connect) the feedline/coax. If you feed it with coax, you want it to be close to a 50 ohm feed Z, for sure. We can, however, feed a dipole anywhere we wish to feed it. Some are fed 1/3 a way from the end – often called an Off Center Fed Dipole or OCFD. (*Note: some call this a Windom – it is not -- Google Windom Antenna*)

You can feed the dipole at the end, which is the highest impedance point on an antenna. The LNR Precision 'Par EndFedz'®, are good examples of this.

Why does the feed Z vary on an antenna as you go from the center to the end? Look at the diagram below. This shows the standing waves of Voltage E and Current I on a $\frac{1}{2}$ wave dipole. If at any point we take the voltage and current and calculate Resistance R using Ohms Law $R = E/I$, you will get a low Resistance in the middle (low voltage/ high current) and an ever increasing impedance as you move the feed point out to the end where you will measure a high impedance (high voltage/low current).



Why does all this matter? Because, the lowest SWR is found when the antenna is resonant (no matter where it is fed or how it is fed) and if you use coax you want to have a fairly close match to the coax cable Zo (surge Z or characteristic Z) to avoid loss. Second, you want to feed the antenna at a place that matches your feedline Zo. With 50 or 75 ohm coax you would feed it at the center. With 450 ohm ladder line, feed it at the 1/3 length point, and by using a matching section or parallel circuit (a tank) you can feed it at the high impedance end. Nuf said for now! de Whiskey 5 Radio Hotel

*The purpose of **The Radio Hotel** is to give you a practical kickstart into exploring the workings of antenna systems. Do a bit of research – Google the buzz words and find out what they mean. Read up on antenna theory to see how it all works together. You will be glad you did.*



THE BVARC Rag Chew Net March Check-ins

02/26/14, K5LKJ (NCS), W5TKZ, KF5TFJ, K5IZO, KE5OBY (R), AF5T, K5LJ, W5TOM, K5CEK/5 (RCS), VK2AJB/5 (RCS) (Sidney, Australia), N5DTT (Bellaire), WS5H, N5CPA, AA0ST (Dickenson), KL7AX (Katy), N5NYV (Clear Lake), KF5OXF (Needville), W5RH. (18 Check-Ins)

Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 174, SN = 157, A = 4, K = 1

03/05/14, K5LKJ (NCS), W5TKZ, K5LBU, WA5CYI (T), AA0ST (Dickenson), W5TOM, W5HFF, KL7AX (Katy), N5DTT (Bellaire), K5LJ, K5CAM, KE5OBY (R), AA5OA, K5WRN, WS5H, K5CEK/5 (RCS), VK2AJB/5 (RCS) (Sidney, Australia), AF5T, W5RH, KF5PHA, K5IZO, W5CJA (M) (Jackson, TX), K5LKB, KF5JMJ (Pasadena), N5CPA. (25 Check-Ins)

Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 149, SN = 171, A = 7, K = 2

03/12/14, K5LKJ (NCS), W5HFF, W5TKZ, W5TOM, K5CAM, KF5TFJ, N5DTT (Bellaire), KE5OBY, K5LJ, KF5PHA, AA5OA, WS5H, KL7AX (Katy), K5IZO, AA0ST (Dickenson), K0NM, N5CPA, K5LKB. (18 Check-Ins)

Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 165, SN = 108, A = 4, K = 1

03/19/14, W5TKZ (NCS), W5HFF, AF5T, W5TOM, KE5OBY, K5IZO, K5LKJ, K5LJ, K5LBU, N5DTT (Bellaire), KF5TFJ, N5ASH (El Campo). (12 Check-Ins)
Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 146, SN = 125, A = 6, K = 1

03/26/14, K5LKJ (NCS), W5TKZ, WA5CYI, WS5H, AF5T, KF5TFJ, W5HFF, AA5OA, K5LJ, KE5OBY (R), N5DTT (Bellaire), K5IZO, W5TOM, KJ5SS (San Angelo), KL7AX (Katy), AA0ST (Dickenson), N5CPA, KF5JMJ (Pasadena), KC5JAR (Katy). (19 Check-Ins)
Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 153, SN = 114, A = 8, K = 1

(M) = mobile (P) = Portable (R) = Relay (RCS) = remote controlled station (T) = telephone check-in

Come join us each Wednesday evening. Regards. John K5LKJ



A Ham Radio journey

July 2014 will start my third year in ham radio. So far it has been a fun ride. BVARC has made the experience more wonderful than I thought possible. I am thankful for the efforts of those old hams who help us all with technical issues, those who serve us all running the administrative side of BVARC, and, of course, the .94 repeater and those who support it technically and financially.

After almost 30 months into this adventure, I think it is time for me to give back as well. I am ready to take some responsibility, help pull the wagon, get on board, roll up sleeves, etc. Did I leave out any clichés? After some time thinking about it, I have decided how I can contribute. Well, I can write and I like to write. The same people have been writing in the "BVARC Gazette" over and over and over without a break. I asked myself, is someone going to give these guys a break or is there no one else who can write. An inner voice responded back, "why don't you do it?" What, me write? Well, I have done it before, why not now. Ron, Rick, John and others, can I help share the writing load with you?

Here is why I want to write:

I simply want to share my perspective of the journey while it is still fresh and new to me. At least monthly, I discover something new with help of my many elmers who have taught me something. I want to share with you the joy of some my new discoveries. If you are an old ham, I hope you will feel the same joy again. If you are a new ham maybe you will discover that others have the same challenges you are facing. It is as Rick Hiller says, "it's the journey." Rick is one of those people, among several at BVARC, who have challenged me to move up to the next level of technical proficiency and greater service to the ham community. Thanks Rick, I accept the challenge.

I want to write about ideas on how to grow our hobby. Some may disagree with my specific ideas and this that is really ok. Disagreement is even healthy. To disagree does not mean there will never be agreement, but it does mean that agreement has not yet been reached. Our good ideas from various perspectives will merge together into a well-defined team plan. Growing our hobby takes all of us acting both as a team and as individuals. Gathering together on the repeater, at the restaurants and monthly meetings is the "planning room" for the growth of our hobby.

There are some unique people who are hams. We are a very eclectic crowd. I intend to interview some unique people and ask why and how they became hams and let you know what they told me. Some of these people are famous. It may be difficult to contact some of them, but, I am going to try.

Last, I want to persuade you to help. There are so many tasks to be done. Many of the tasks are very simple, some are quite complicated. The Bible teaches that the church functions like a body, each member with different desires, skills and abilities. If an eye seeks to do the work of an ear, where is the sight? If a leg tries to be an arm, how can the body walk? We function in a group best when we do the things that we enjoy the most.

So, what member of the BVARC body are you? Are you an eye or an ear, a leg, a right hand? Have you found a part that you love to do? Your part is whatever you are most comfortable doing. We contribute our best when we do the things we enjoy the most. Find the task and or role that you really enjoy. By the way, complaining is not a needed skill. There are many tasks that need completion in which you are excellent. What do you like to do? Well, start doing it!

What will I call this blog? How about ***The Journey***. I would appreciate hearing your story at bobhawkins1@gmail.com. I would love to hear stories of your ham radio journey.

'73

Bob Hawkins, KD5AT



**Results of the March 22nd
BVARC Amateur License Examination Session
by: John Moore, KK5NU**

B-VARC sponsored and administered the ARRL-VEC's Amateur Radio License Examination sessions held on Saturday, March 22, 2014 at the Greater Houston Hamfest held at the Fort Bend County Fairgrounds in Rosenberg, TX.

Members of the Active VE Exam Team:

Louis House, W5DPT Larry Jacobson, K5LJ John Moore, KK5NU
George Ontko, KM5VP Marie Schaer, KD5UJT

We also had a small number of attending VE's on stand-by if needed.

Fifteen (15) examination elements were administered to fourteen (14) applicants during the course of our two sessions during the day. Five new Technician class licensees, one upgrade to Technician, one new and two upgrades to General class, along with one upgrade to Amateur Extra class were attained; with the total numbers of elements passed being 11. The overall "pass rate" for the session was 73.33%.

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

Donovan G. Balli	-	-	General
Bill Dirba	-	KF5RBA	General
Janet K. Dirba	-		Technician
Paul H. Joki	-	KF5RZV	Amateur Extra
Sam McGinty	-	KG5ATI	General
Thomas D. Metcalfe	-		Technician
Ronald B. Miller	-		Technician
David L. Payne	-		Technician
Karl H. Rosenkranz	-	WL7BKF	Technician
Craig L. Statham	-		Technician

Many thanks to all the Team Members and our stand-by VE's who volunteered their valuable time and effort for the hamfest sessions.

... 73



BVARC Historical Vignettes – BVARC's Parliamentarian
by Allen Mattis, N5AFV, Club Historian

Those of you who read the minutes of the BVARC Board of Directors that are published in each newsletter may have noticed that in the February 2014 meeting the board discussed the possibility of appointing a club Parliamentarian. The BVARC By-Laws do not mention a parliamentarian; however, the club has had a Parliamentarian at least three times in the history of our club. The current club By-Laws do not prohibit having a Parliamentarian, but if one is appointed that person would not be an officer of the club or a member of the Board of Directors unless the current By-Laws are amended.

Many different definitions of Parliamentarian appear on the Internet. The Parliamentarian is a consultant to the president. The role is purely an advisory and consultative one since parliamentary law gives the chair alone the power to rule on questions of order or to answer parliamentary inquiries. Therefore, a Parliamentarian should be an expert in rules of order and the proper procedures for the conduct of meetings. The Parliamentarian should also maintain the appearance of impartiality.

The first time I know of BVARC having a Parliamentarian was in 1988 when David Dyer, AA5GA, was President. The immediate Past President, George Jolly, ND5E, was appointed to chair a committee to propose changes to the By-Laws with regard to voting and election procedures. This topic is a well-known "hot button" issue and it should not surprise any of us that during the general membership meeting when the issue was brought up for a vote there was pandemonium. President Dyer

immediately appointed a Parliamentarian to attempt to bring order to the meeting. Though it does not appear in a written record, my recollection is that Rick Meyer, KA5YSL, was appointed Parliamentarian. Order was restored, discussion continued, and voting took place. The Parliamentarian saved the day and differences of opinion did not tear the club apart.

The next occurrence of BVARC having a Parliamentarian is documented. Minutes of the February 6, 1992 BVARC Board of Directors meeting indicate that President Randy Pollard, AK5G, told the Board "Carl Hacker, KB5LDY, has graciously volunteered to act as Parliamentarian for B-VARC." Hacker attended the Board of Directors meeting that evening to get a feeling what the position would require.

Four years later the club again had a Parliamentarian. According to the minutes of the February 1, 1996 Board of Directors meeting BVARC President Ron Grimes, WA5SCE, "brought up the issues of Past Presidents and Parliamentarian positions on the Board. He stated that he was still working on Parliamentarian, and would be contacting Carl Hacker – KB5LDY." The Recording Secretary's minutes did not accurately reflect what Grimes said in that only the immediate Past President referred to a position on the Board of Directors. Immediate Past President Carl Cunert, WB8SVR, had moved to Ohio and the Board had to wrestle with the problem of appointing someone to fill the Past-President board position.

While BVARC does not have an official position of Parliamentarian that position has been filled by appointment when the President believed it was needed and a Parliamentarian is part of our club's history.



Minutes of the March 6, 2014 Board of Directors meeting of the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club

Bill Stone called the monthly Board of Directors meeting for the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club to at 7 PM on March 6, 2014 at Bayland Park Community Center, 6400 Bissonnet, Houston 77074. Attending were: Bill Stone WS5H (Pres), Michael Wren K5WRN (V.P.), Michael Monsour ACØTX (Rec.Sec./Quart.) Jerry Muller KF5EYC (2yr At-Large Dir.), Kirk Kendrick KK2Z 1 yr Past Pres.), John Chauvin K5IZO Newsletter Editor, Norma Stone KE5NDN.

- 1 Minutes for the February 2014 meeting were approved as previously distributed and as appears in the March newsletter
- 2 Treasurers Reports for January were given to Bill Stone for presentation at the Board meeting. There were questions where donations for the banquet appears, perhaps they appear in December report. This will be followed up off-line. The Treasurers Report was accepted by the Board with the noted exception of the donations validation.
- 3 Announcements: Ron Litt resigned from event chairman of Museum Ship Weekend Event. There is a need for someone to take over this event
- 4 Old business
 - 4.1 The request for BVARC in the Park is moot as there is a personal loan from ACØTX
 - 4.2 The Budget question for MSWE will be handled after the Hamfest. There was discussion about the Budget should be converted into a monthly burn rate.
- 5 New Business
 - 5.1 The Hamfest report from John Chauvin: Everything is going great with no show stoppers. There are many door prizes with six main prizes. Michael Wren will host the Hamfest speakers Friday night along with Al Brier and John Chauvin.
 - 5.2 There is a request from the TDXS president to be invited to the BVARC field day. There is a motion to extend an invitation to TDXS and also to ECHO to come to the fire field and participate in the BVARC field day. Motion was passed with no nays.
 - 5.3 There needs to be a BVARC Field Day chairman.
 - 5.4 There is a problem that there seems to be no advertising rated published and is difficult to place an ad. A motion was passed with no nays that the proposed layout is half page layout and full page layout per month, half year and full year.
 - 5.5 Jerry wanted to do a discussion on club dues and presented a comparison with other club's dues. Any changes require bylaw change and requiring a vote of the membership and it is proposed that the discussion be postponed for two months.

Meeting adjourned 8:15 PM

Submitted by Recording Secretary, Michael Monsour ACØTX





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The BRONKO Inflatable Antenna Tower

Editor's Note: This article was submitted, tongue-in-cheek, by Ron Litt, K5HM.



When your BRONKO inflatable tower arrives, just blow it up . . . PFFFFFFFFFTT! You are on the air in minutes. . . 33 feet of antenna perfection. It will take your breath away! And, when the HOA police arrive at your QTH, use the handy rapid deflation zipper to make your tower disappear. ZZZZIPP! Whoosh!

Your BRONKO Inflatable Tower is easy to pack for a DXpedition. Simply fold it into the handy travel pouch that clips to your belt. When questioned by customs authorities, you can claim it is a rain poncho. Never mind that you are travelling to Chad or Niger, where the annual average rainfall is less than two inches.

Your kit includes the POPEIL Pocket Fisherman. For remote island DXpeditions, you can survive on fish while you are waiting for the Coast Guard to rescue you.

Order your BRONKO Inflatable Tower now and you will also receive the BRONKO Portable Bicycle pump for rapid inflation in an exotic DX locale. And the first 100 who order will receive the BRONKO Inflatable Antenna Rotator. It works; you'll just have to take our word for it.

Each BRONKO Inflatable Tower comes with the exclusive GLH Aerosol Tower Patch Kit that instantly seals leaks; a \$40 value, free. You can also use the GLH Patch Kit to repair tire punctures, leaking boats or cover bald spots if you have thinning hair.

Order today and we will double your order! Just think of the possibilities with two towers!

Now available in colors! ARES Green, Dayglo Orange and Camouflage.

Place your order now! E-mail to larserappjr@kiperonthethecharles.com. Supplies are limited.

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2013 Club Officers:

President:

Bill Stone, WS5H
dragntow@wt.net

Vice President:

Michael Wrenn, K5WRN
michael.wrenn@gmail.com

Corresponding Secretary / Treasurer

Robert Tomlinson, N5JSL
rbtswim@gmail.com

Recording Secretary:

Michael Monsour, AC0TX
msirc@wildflower.net

2 Year At-Large Board Member A:

Jerry Muller, KF5EYC
gmuller885@aol.com

2 Year At-Large Board Member B:

Ron Litt, K5HM
k5hm.ron@gmail.com

1 Year Past President Board Member

Kirk Kendrick, KK2Z
kmkendrick@gmail.com

Club Happenings:

General Meeting

Second Thursday each month, 7:30 PM
2511 Eldridge Rd, Sugar Land, 77478, Eldridge
Park Conference Center (Check page 1)

Board of Directors Meeting

First Thursday of each month, 7:00 PM
Bayland Park Community Center
Bayland Park, 6400 Bissonnet,

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 (167.9) at 8:00 PM



BVARC EATING SCHEDULE

SATURDAY MORNING BREAKFAST

IHOP, 7:00a.m., SW Freeway inbound 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>

06/13/2014 | Ham-Com 2014 - "REGIONAL ARRL CENTENNIAL EVENT"

Location: Plano, TX

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: West Gulf & Delta Divisions

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

07/12/2014 | Texas City Hamfest 2014

Location: Texas City, TX

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Tidelands Amateur Radio Society

Website: <http://tidelands.org>

07/24/2014 | Central States VHF Society Conference

Location: Austin, TX

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Central States VHF Society

Website: <http://csvhfs.org>

08/01/2014 | Texas State Convention (Austin Summerfest)

Location: Austin, TX

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Austin ARC & Texas VHF-FM Society

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





Monthly Publication of the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club.
Serving Amateur Radio for Southwest Houston and Fort Bend County
Club Call sign – KK5W
BVARC Website: <http://www.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-©-(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 Scarella 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 38, ISSUE 4

APRIL 2014

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

FIRST CLASS POSTAGE

- **General Membership Meeting – Thursday, April 10**

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