



BRAZOS VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



AMATEUR RADIO FOR SOUTHWEST HOUSTON AND FORT BEND COUNTY

APRIL 2003

VOLUME 27 ISSUE 4

HELP WANTED

Semi comatose or better, warm bodies needed for the last full weekend in June, 2003; from noon local time on Saturday, June 28th until 3 PM, Sunday, June 29th..

Duties will consist of operating amateur radio equipment on all bands under the knowledgeable and watchful supervision of a well trained control operator(s). Call signs will be furnished for the term of this assignment. Pleasant, varmint free outdoor working conditions with food, refreshments and limited shelter provided with access to air conditioned restroom facilities.

Ability to be available to report ready for duty to the Fort Bend Fire Training Facility in Richmond, TX.

Contact the BVARC Field Day Coordinator, Orin Snook, KB5F –email <osnook@ev1.net> or call (281) 431-9539 for details.

Mike Davidson Gives Talk on 10-10 at March Meeting



2003 Club Officers:

President:

Mike Hardwick, N5VCX
n5vcx@worldnet.att.net

Vice President:

Allen Brier, N5XZ
abrier@hotmail.com

Corresponding Secretary/Treasurer:

Cameron Mitchell
k5cam@arrl.net

Recording Secretary:

Joe Morgan, K5JWM
k5jwm@att.net

One Year Board Member:

Dave Scott, WD8RZA
wd8rza@aol.com

Two Year Board Member:

Ross Lawler, W5HFF
w5hff@juno.com

Past President:

Kevin Foto, KD5O
foto@texas.net

Club Happenings:

General Meeting

Second Thursday each month,
Sugar Land Community Center,
224 Matlage Way

Board of Directors Meeting

First Thursday of each month,
Sugar Land Community Center,
224 Matlage Way

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

Eating Schedule

Third Friday Dinner at 6:30 p.m.
Location announced in the calendar.

Saturday morning breakfasts -

7:00 a.m. New York Coffee Shop
9720 Hillcroft, Houston
7:30 a.m. Viking Den
2939 S. Main, Stafford

Rag Chew Net

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

Public Service Net

Monday night on 145.47 (123 PL) at
9:00 PM

Rag Chew Net

By Joe Morgan, K5JWM

March 2003

NOTE FREQUENCY CHANGE 3910 KHz

3910 KHz +/- 3KHz Wednesdays at 7:00 pm,

Joe Morgan, K5JWM, Net Coordinator

Just WHAT IS the Rag Chew Net? Well it's a chance for you to get on the low bands and hang out with other BVARC members, as well as hams from around the south central US! WHAT?? Don't have voice privileges? Got a short-wave receiver? Dial in and listen, then check in using the telephone number announced at the beginning of each net.

03/05/03 _ K5JWM, K5CEK, KE5SR, KB5F, K5LJ, KK5NU N5CPA, WC5S, AD5NN, K5HFF, KD5O, KC5JAR, AB5RJ Check-ins (13)

03/12/03 _ K5JWM, K5CEK, AD5NN, N5CPA, KE5SR, NM5K K5LJ, WC5S, KD5EPZ, K5LBU, N5VXU, AB5RJ, K5VRJ, K5HFF, KB5F.check-ins (15)

03/19/03 K5JWM, K5CEK, N5CPA, AD5NN, KE5SR, NM5K, K5LJ, K5VRJ, AB5BA, WC5S, N5VXU, K5HFF, AD5KB check-ins (13)

03/26/03 _ K5JWM, KC5JAR, KB5F, K5CEK, KE5SR, N5CPA, K5VRJ, AB5BA, K5LKJ, KK5NU, N5VXU, K5HFF check-ins (12)

Amateur Radio Testing

Results of the March 11th Testing Session

by John Moore, KK5NU

BVARC administered the ARRL-VEC Amateur Radio Examination session that was held on Tuesday, April 8th, 2003 at HCC's Scarcella Technology Campus here in Stafford.

Members Of The VE Team:

- Carl Albrech, AA5JW
- Larry Jacobson, K5LJ
- John Moore, KK5NU
- George Ontiko, KM5VP

Five examination elements were administered during the course of the evening to five applicants. Five unlicensed candidates received their new Technician licenses; with the total number of elements passed being 5. The overall "pass rate" for the evening was 100%. Congratulations to the following who passed an exam and/or upgraded:

- Catherine S. Janzer-KD5WDR- Technician
- Edward C. Kovelan, Jr. -KD5WDQ- Technician
- Stephen D. Lecollier -KD5WDP- Technician
- Peter M. Novak -KD5WDO- Technician
- Thomas J. Wright -KD5WDN- Technician

Many thanks to all the team members and assistants who volunteer their valuable time and effort each month. All of us at BVARC thank everyone at HCC Scarcella Technology Center for making these excellent classroom facilities available to us for our exams each month.

The Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club Board of Directors would like to thank Lockard & White Telecommunications Engineers for the printing of this newsletter.

President's Corner

By Mike Hardwick, N5VCX, President

Field Day is coming up fast. Orin, KB5F, is still needing help for setup, operation and many other things for Field Day. This is amateur radio yearly premier event and everyone should make an effort to help out.

Cameron Mitchell, K5CAM, is stepping down from his temporary position as corresponding secretary/treasurer. Cam stepped in for a few months when Ron Eisenbrey, AB5WG, who was elected to the position was hired by a San Antonio company and had to move. I want to thank Cam for his time and effort on stepping up to the need.

The new corresponding secretary/treasurer is now Mack Arp, W5EET. Mack has graciously stepped up (had his arm twisted) to the plate to help out with club duties. I want to thank him for taking on this position.

The MS150 wrap-up meeting was very interesting. Some of the interesting statistics are:

- Over 10,500 riders registered for the ride
- 9,220 rode the first day, 8,240 rode the second
- SAG vehicles picked up over 1900 riders over two days
- To do that they drove over 28,800 miles.
- The ride will raise nearly 7 million dollars to help fight MS

The ride is scheduled for April 17th & 18th, 2004. This will be the twentieth year of the ride and they are expecting it to be the biggest every.

If you have an article for the newsletter, get in contact with Marie.

Don't forget the next meeting on June 12th. This will be the planning meeting for field day.

73's

N5VCX

Public Service Net

Doug Woodruff, KC5VYZ - Coordinator

The Public Service Net meets every Monday night on 145.47 (123 PL) at 9:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome. Check-ins and that night's net control:

3/25 - 31 - Doug, KC5VYZ
3/31 - 22 - John, K5LKJ
4/7 - 24 - Cam, K5CAM
4/14 - 27 - Cam, K5CAM
4/21 - 23 - Joe, K5JWM

Help Needed Putting Up and Taking Down Tower

Bud Talbot, KB9WVG@arrl.net, needs help taking down, moving, and putting up a tower that has been donated to Elkins High School. Tentative dates are May 3rd and 10th.

0208

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Public Service Events

By Mike Hardwick, N5VCX, President

Here are some events for the rest of the year. Come out and help. Put your license and radio to a good use. If you like the hobby, this is one of the best ways to promote the hobby and help a worthy cause at the same time. Remember, one of the main reasons for amateur radio is to help the community. If you are interested in any of these events, give me a call and I will send you information on the event. Call me at 713-771-4625 or e-mail n5vcx@arrl.net.

Shiner Bash Bike Ride

May 17th, 2003 15 operators needed on each leg
n5vcx@arrl.net
Houston & San Antonio & Austin to Shiner

MS150 Bike Ride Awards & Volunteer Party

June 25th, 2003 MS150 Volunteers
hou.hams@ms150.org

And for those who want to plan ahead:

MS150 HOUSTON TO AUSTIN Bike Ride

April 17th & 18th, 2004

AMSAT-NA Issues First Call For Annual Symposium Papers

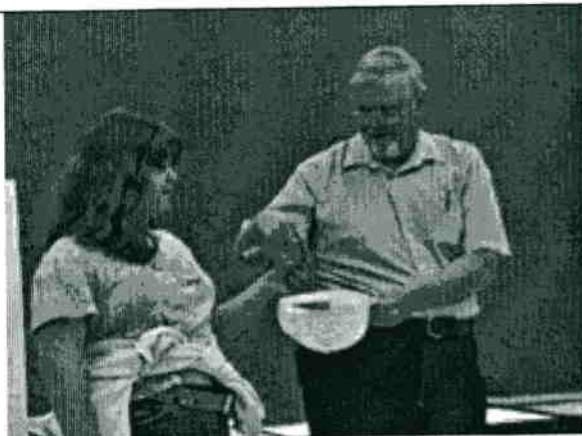
AMSAT-NA Issues First Call For Annual Symposium Papers

AMSAT-NA has issued the first call for papers for its 2003 Space Symposium and Annual Meeting <http://www.barc.ca/amsat_ca/> October 17-19, 2003 in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Papers may be presented by the author during the symposium or submitted for inclusion in the symposium Proceedings publication. Subject matter should be of general interest to Amateur Radio operators involved in satellite communications. Suggested topics include

- operating techniques, antenna design and construction, spacecraft design
- and construction, current mission status, proposed satellite missions, and
- telemetry acquisition and relay.

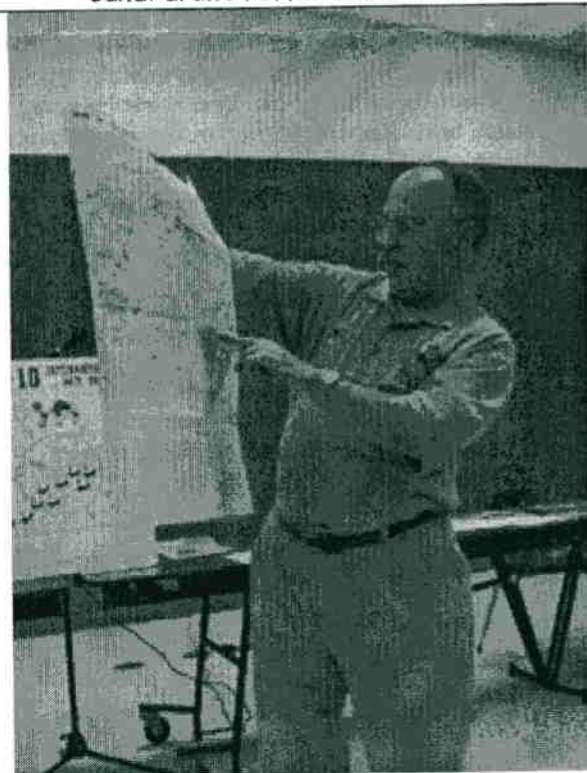
Authors should submit brief abstracts as soon as possible but in no case later than June 15. Publication-ready manuscripts are due August 15, preferably in electronic form and in MS-Word format. E-mail electronic submittals to Wayne Chandler, VE3WHC, ve3whc@amsat.org.--AMSAT News Service

Reprinted with permission from The ARRL Letter, Vol. 22, No. 16, April 18, 2003

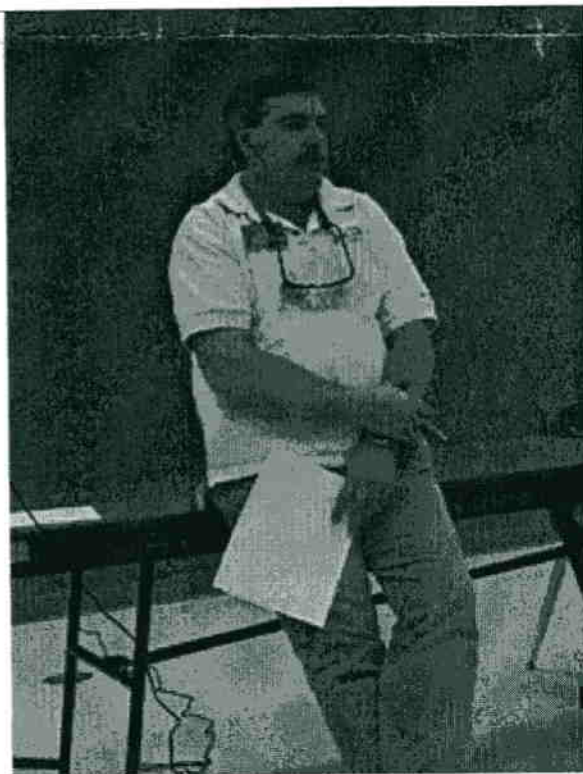


Candi draws raffle ticket winners

Pictures from Membership Meeting, April 10th



Mike Davidson expounds on 10-10



Orin updates the club on his lawsuit. Court date is May 20th

Enhanced SSB Bandwidths "Extremely Inconsiderate," FCC Says

The FCC has sent advisory notices to four enthusiasts of what's become known as "enhanced SSB"—the practice of engineering transmitted single-sideband audio to approach broadcast quality. Letters went out earlier this month to amateurs in Illinois, Florida and New Jersey who are aficionados of enhanced SSB, also known as "upper wideband" and "lower wideband."

"The Commission has received numerous complaints regarding the operation of your station," FCC Special Counsel Riley Hollingsworth wrote Paul Christensen, W9AC, John Anning, NU9N, Anthony Latin, W4NSG, and Sareno Salerno, W2ONV, on April 3. Hollingsworth said complaints to the FCC alleged that the bandwidths of the stations' enhanced SSB emissions were "wider than necessary and contrary to good engineering practice."

"Wideband overly-processed audio, especially when coupled with the high intermodulation levels of certain amplifiers, results in the use of bandwidths extremely inconsiderate of other operators," Hollingsworth said. Such transmissions may violate FCC rules and may be at odds with what Hollingsworth described as "the expectation that the Amateur Service be largely self-regulated."

Occupying more bandwidth than necessary in a heavily used amateur band, Hollingsworth wrote, not only could generate ill will among operators but lead to petitions

asking the FCC to establish bandwidth limits for amateur emissions. At present, the FCC imposes no specific bandwidth limits on various amateur modes.

Hollingsworth cited §97.307(a) of the Amateur Service rules that requires the signal of an amateur station not occupy "more bandwidth than necessary for the information rate and emission type being transmitted, in accordance with good amateur practice." Some amateurs have complained that enhanced SSB signals can take up 8 kHz or more of spectrum, cause splatter and unnecessarily interfere with other stations.

"The Amateur Service is not a substitute for the Broadcast Service," Hollingsworth said, "and the frequencies allocated to the Amateur Service were not allocated for a 'broadcast quality' audio emission or sound." Hollingsworth suggested the enhanced SSBers operate when the bands are less busy or on bands that are not heavily used.

The many complaints the FCC has been getting—20 or so per week—leads to the conclusion that the stations' enhanced SSB operation is having "a negative impact" on the Amateur Service, Hollingsworth said. He requested that the four amateurs "fully review the rules" and make sure their stations conform to them.

*Reprinted with permission from The ARRL Letter,
Vol. 22, No. 16, April 18, 2003*

DXCC To Accept Iraq Portable Operations Approved By Commanding Officers

ARRL Membership Services Manager Wayne Mills, N7NG, says the League will accept for DXCC credit YI/operations from Iraq by US or British military personnel provided the operator has written permission from his or her commanding officer.

"There is precedent for this," Mills said, citing an operation during the 1991 Gulf War. "These operators will need written authorization to operate from their commanding officers until an interim Iraqi civilian government is in place," Mills said. After that point, operators would need documented permission from Iraqi authorities.

The Daily DX <<http://www.dailydx.com>> has reported that several hams with the US military in Iraq have been showing up on the air in recent days. Mark Smith, NG5L, has been active from near Nasiriya as YI/NG5L on SSB, usually around 0500 UTC near 14.195 MHz. He's also been spotted in Europe and North America on other 20-meter frequencies and at other times of the day. Smith is in Iraq with the 82nd Airborne Division.

Jim Dunkerton, YI/KT4CK, has been active on 15-meter SSB between 1430 and 1600 UTC. Dunkerton is believed to be with the 101st Airborne. Bob Furzer, 9K2ZZ/K4CY, reportedly has been on the air from Iraq as K4CY/p or K4CY/m. Other hams are known to be in Iraq but have not yet been reported on the air.

Still not known is whether Ed Giorgadze, 4L4FN—now in the Middle East after wrapping up his North Korean (P5) operation last fall—will be on a United Nations World Food Program assignment inside Iraq in the near future. That could depend in part on how big a role the UN plays in rebuilding Iraq.

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BRAZOS VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

2003 Membership Application

Check One:

☐ New Membership

☐ Renewal

☐ Roster Update ONLY

Regular membership dues are \$20.00 a year. Lifetime Memberships are \$160.00. Additional family members may join BVARC for only \$2.00 a year each with no additional copy of the newsletter.

Name: _____ Call: _____

Additional Family Members: _____ Call: _____

Additional Family Members: _____ Call: _____

(Note: If this is a renewal, please indicate only changes in personal information. Thanks.)

Address: _____ Day Phone () _____

_____ Eve Phone () _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip+4: _____

e-mail address: _____

Main area of interests in amateur radio: _____

License Class:

ARRL Membership?

☐ Novice ☐ General

☐ Life

☐ Technician ☐ Advanced

☐ Annual

☐ Tech+ ☐ Extra

☐ Not a member

☐ Former Ham ☐ Not Yet a Ham

I agree to observe the By-Laws of Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club and rules and regulations of the Federal Communications Commission.

Signature: _____ Call: _____ Date: _____

Remittance:

Regular Membership _____ + Family Membership _____ = \$ _____

LIFE MEMBERSHIPS* at \$160 per Person _____ = \$ _____

TOTAL = \$ _____

Please make checks payable to BRAZOS VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB and write your call sign, if any, on your check. Send this form and your check or money order to:

Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 1630

Missouri City TX 77459-1630

May 2003

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 BOD Meeting 7:30 PM	2	3 See *below
4	5 Net 9:00p.m. 145.470 MHz	6 AMSAT Net 8:00 p.m. 145.470 MHz	7 HF Net 7:00pm 3910 +/-3KHz	8 Club Meeting 7:30 pm	9	10 See *below
11	12 Net 9:00p.m. 145.470 MHz	13 VE Session 6:30 pm AMSAT Net 8:00 p.m.	14 HF Net 7:00pm 3910 +/-3KHz	15	16 See **below	17 See *below Arthritis Joint Walk Shiner Bash Bike Ride
18	19 Net 9:00p.m. 145.470 MHz	20 AMSAT Net 8:00 p.m. 145.470 MHz	21 HF Net 7:00pm 3910 +/-3KHz	22	23	24 See *below
25	26 Net 9:00p.m. 145.470 MHz	27 AMSAT Net 8:00 p.m. 145.470 MHz	28 HF Net 7:00pm 3910 +/-3KHz	29	30	31

* Saturday morning breakfasts 7.00 a.m. New York Coffee Shop. 9720 Hillcroft, Houston. 7:30 a.m. Viking Den 2939 S. Main, Stafford.
3rd Friday Dinner: MAY 16, 6:30 p.m. at The HICKORY BARN BARBECUE, 11534 Wilcrest, 1- 1/2 blocks N. of the S.W. FRWY.

June 2003

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2 Net 9:00p.m. 145.470 MHz	3 AMSAT Net 8:00 p.m. 145.470 MHz	4 HF Net 7:00pm 3910 +/-3KHz	5 BOD Meeting 7:30 PM	6	7
8	9 Net 9:00p.m. 145.470 MHz	10 VE Session 6:30 pm AMSAT Net 8:00 p.m. 145.470 MHz	11 HF Net 7:00pm 3910 +/-3KHz	12 Club Meeting 7:30 pm	13	14
15	16 Net 9:00p.m. 145.470 MHz	17 AMSAT Net 8:00 p.m. 145.470 MHz	18 HF Net 7:00pm 3910 +/-3KHz	19	20	21
22	23 Net 9:00p.m. 145.470 MHz	24 AMSAT Net 8:00 p.m. 145.470 MHz	25 HF Net 7:00pm 3910 +/-3KHz	26	27	28 Field Day Richmond Fire Training
29 Field Day Richmond Fire Training	30 Net 9:00p.m. 145.470 MHz					

3RD Friday Dinner June 20, 6:30p.m. (sharp) at PANDA GARDEN CHINESE RESTAURANT 1043 Eldridge Road at Jesse Pirtle Blvd. in Sugar Land.

* Saturday morning breakfasts 7.00 a.m. New York Coffee Shop. 9720 Hillcroft, Houston. 7:30 a.m. Viking Den 2939 S. Main, Stafford.



Monthly Publication of the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club.
Serving Amateur Radio for Southwest Houston and Fort Bend County

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Production Team: Claude Sessions, K5HFY, k5hfy@arrl.net
John Moore, KK5NU, jwm@hal-pc.org

The 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 Southwest Houston and Fort Bend County.

Today, BVARC is truly a general interest club with an impressive record of Public Service. The American Radio Relay League (ARRL) has recognized the club's commitment to service with the coveted status of Special Service 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. Meetings are at 7:30 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month, at the Sugar Land Community Center. Talk-in assistance is available in the 145.470, and 444.550 MHz (PL 123.0) repeaters. Membership dues are \$20 per year.

BVARC administers ARRL-VEC license exam sessions on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. A Public Service Net is held at 9 PM. each Monday on the Memorial Emergency Radio Association's 145.47 & 444.55 repeaters.

To obtain information about joining BVARC or its activities contact the Club's "Elmer", Ross, W5HFF at 281-342-3340 or w5hff@juno.com.

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April 2003

**BRAZOS VALLEY
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
P.O. BOX 1630
MISSOURI CITY TX 77459-1630
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FIRST CLASS POSTAGE



**Don't Forget
Next Membership Meeting, June 12th
7:30p.m., Sugar Land Community Center**

12/1/2009 E
Allen Mattis N5AFV
5314 WIGTON DR
HOUSTON TX 77096-5115

If your mailing label is
highlighted in color its time
to renew your membership