



BRAZOS VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



AMATEUR RADIO FOR SOUTHWEST HOUSTON AND FORT BEND COUNTY

MAY 2009

VOLUME 33 ISSUE 5

MAY MEETING

May 14th Meeting Agenda -- Besides our usual meeting activities, we will have a collage of presentations to stir your interest.

- 1) Charlie Lancaster, KT5BBQ, will be presenting a program on the "Hams for Hospitals" project.
- 2) Bill Stone, WS5H, will talk about the history and planned activity for the June "Museum Ships" event, being held at Sea Wolf Park in Galveston
- 3) Bill will also be presenting a short historical vignette of the Houston Amateur Radio Club, including some pictures recently found in a 1957 CQ magazine.
- 4) If time permits, we might even play Ham Radio Trivia again, with some nice Radio Amateur Handbooks as the prizes, donated by Claude, W5HFY.



April Meeting Report

The BVARC General Meeting on April 9th was attended by about 40 folks. Some new members were in attendance, so we welcome them and hope that they enjoyed the Antenna Modeling presentation, done by Rick – W5RH. Also, there was a grab box full of thrown out goodies from Claude, W5HFY, and some really old CQ magazines for the taking. (Submitted by Rick Hiller)



President's Message.

Happy May to all the members,

I did not have time to do a news report last month as we were getting ready for the TAKS test which is why this is so late plus the hard drive on my computer at home has crashed. Then here we are right in the middle of the TAKS test so this is short.

There is so much going on at present that where does one start??

Well how about Field Day that is coming up on the last weekend of June.

Are you ready to help BVARC do a great job this year?

Who is going to volunteer?

To be the go to person for this???

I will not be at the next meeting as I will be doing two presentations at the Dayton Ham Convention.

Frosty
K5LBU



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



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RESULTS OF THE April 14th, 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, April 14, 2009 at HCC's Scarcella Technology Campus here in Stafford.

MEMBERS OF THE VE TEAM:

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

Eleven examination elements were administered during the evening to eleven applicants. Five new Technician class licenses and five upgradesto General class were attained; with the total number of elements passed being 10. The overall "pass rate" for the evening was 90.91%.

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

Sabrina W. Adekoya - {KF5APP} - Technician
Carl W. Collins, Jr. - K5CWC - General
Stephen E. Cook - KE5WCP - General
Brent M. Johnson - {KF5APQ} - Technician
Lance M. Johnson - {KF5APR} - Technician
John D. Longnecker, Jr. - N5ZBT - General
Shaun D. Ortolano - {KF5APS} - Technician
Malcolm A. Peirson - {KF5APT} - Technician
Michael W. Smith, II - N5TGL - General
Alan W. Vencil - KD5WLP - General

Many thanks to all the Team Members and Assistants who volunteer their valuable time and effort each month.

All of us at B-VARC again thank everyone at HCC Scarcella Technology Center for making these excellent classroom facilities available to us for our exams each month.

..... 73



Field Day 2009 – Seeking a Co-ordinator

We are looking for a co-ordinator for the BVARC Field Day activity. As you know, we always have lots of enthusiastic volunteers to do all of the work, but it takes one person to pull it all together. I am sure past FD co-ordinators such as Robert KD5YVQ, Mike, N5VCX or Dwayne, KB5YTA would be happy to answer any questions that you might have. The sooner you belly up to the bar, the sooner we can get moving toward a successful Field Day June 27th and 28th. Contact any of the BVARC Board members listed in the BVARC Bulletin to volunteer your time or to get more information.

(Submitted by Rick Hiller, W5RH)

THE BVARC Rag Chew Net

April check-ins

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

04/01/09, K5LKJ (NCS), K5CEK, K5LOT, K5JWM, W5RJA (Schulenburg), W5UHZ (Beaumont), KJ5SS, N5CPA, K5LJ, K5NDB, KD5YVQ (Kingwood), K5SEE, WB5VYR, KB5JJW (Weimer), WA5CYI, W5TOM, K5LBU, K5HFY, W5RH, NT5SM, KC5JAR (Katy), KD5QPX, KC9LKW (23 Check-Ins)

04/08/09, K5LKJ (NCS), K5LOT, KJ5SS, WS5H, W5TOM, WB5VYR, W5RJA (Schulenburg), K5LBU, K5NDB, W5HFF (M), K5LJ, N5CPA, W5JSU (La Marque), W5UHZ (Beaumont), AA5OA, AF5T (T), W5RH, KB5JJW (Weimer), K5UAO (Alexandria, LA), WD5CSG (Miliam), WA5CYI, K5H NJ, KC5JAR (Katy), K5HFY. (24 Check-Ins)

04/15/09, K5LKJ (NCS), K5CEK, KJ5SS(T), W5RJA (Schulenburg), W5RH, WS5H, WA5CYI, W5UHZ (Beaumont), K5HFY, AA5OA, N5CPA, K5NDB, KB5JJW (Weimer), K5LOT, AF5T (T), AB5AB (T). (16 Check-Ins)

04/22/09, K5LKJ (NCS), K5CEK, AD5SS, KJ5SS, K5LOT, N5CPA, KA5LMZ (Morgan City, LA), WB5VYR, W5HFF (M), K5LBU, WS5H, W5TOM, AB5AB, W5RH, K5LJ, AA5OA, K5NDB, W5RJA (Schulenburg), W5UHZ (Beaumont), WA5CYI, KD5CDM, WA5JMC, WA5FMK, KB5JJW (Weimer), K5HFY, KD5YVQ (Kingwood). (26 Check-Ins)

04/29/09, K5LKJ (NCS), K5CEK, KJ5SS, WA5CYI, W5TOM, N5CPA, WS5H, AF5T (P), KC5JAR (Katy), K5LJ, K5NDB, W5UHZ (Beaumont), AA5OA, W5RJA (Schulenburg), W5JSU (La Marque), AB5AB, K5IZO, K5JWM, KE5PPF (Santa Fe)
(19 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:

1/19 - 18 - Sid, n5zkd
1/26 - 25 - Pete, kd5qpx
2/2 - 31 - Cam, k5cam
2/9 - 25 - Bill, ws5h
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



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George DiLetto KD0RW

BP MS150 Houston to Austin Bike Tour

A GREAT SUCCESS EVEN WITH OVER 7 INCHES OF RAIN!!!

Even though the weather caused the cancellation of the first day of the Bike Tour, 10,833 riders showed up in La Grange to ride the 25th anniversary MS150 Houston to Austin Bike Tour. The riders started from the courthouse square in La Grange and went to Austin on the 2 normal routes. The high winds slowed down a great deal of the riders but the last one crossed the finish line at 7:10 pm.

Over 125 amateur radio operators were used to provide communications for the event using 10 various VHF or UHF repeaters. APRS was used on twenty vehicles for tracking purposes to insure a fast medical response. The event communications was handled through the Houston Command Post as well as the Austin NET Control center. Again amateur radio provided a valuable service to worthy cause.

I want to thank everyone for their help and hard work for the 2009 BP MS150 Bike Tour. Without everyone's help and coordination, the event would have had a very difficult time or worse taking care of the riders and event volunteers.

Thank you again for your hard work and help.

Mike Hardwick, N5VCX
Communications Coordinator
BP MS150 Houston to Austin
Bike Tour

Just a few facts for this years ride:

- 10,833 riders left La Grange for Austin**
- 38 SAG vehicles (15 passenger vans)**
- 53 school buses (SAGs)**
- 12 box trucks (for SAGGING bicycles)**
- 35 Intercity buses (for transport back to La Grange and Houston)**
- 20 18 wheelers for bicycle transport**
- 125 really tired ham radio communicators**
- 2,500 really tired other volunteers**



Ladder Line – Homebrew and Commercial Examples Rick – W5RH

A friend of mine, Rod, K5BGB, up in Bryan, came up with a novel way to build 600 ohm (nominal) ladder line. All it takes some plastic hangers from Walmart, some black, UV resistant, very small (cable ties) and wire. See the picture.



To build it you 1) Cut the straight pieces from the hanger, 2) drill holes in each end, 3) thread the wire #12 bare, or insulated, through, then 4) space appropriately and 5) place the cable ties on each side of each spreader for each wire.

Ouila' ! Low loss ladder line, for the cost of the wire, cheap plastic coat hangers and a pack of small black cable ties. Normal equations apply for figuring the 'characteristic impedance' of the line you are building.

Dave, K5NDB had some really nifty 300 ohm window line at breakfast the other day. Each side is #18 stranded wire, each made of 19 strands of copper clad steel wire. So, it is very strong and good for low loss transmission of power from your transceiver to the antenna, in certain antenna system configurations. This along with other ladder (windowed) line can be purchased at Davis RF, where I got this information. <http://www.davisrf.com/ladder.php> Other mail order houses will have this and other types too. So google around to find the wire type that you need for your next project.

BVARC Historical Vignettes – The BVARC Sidewalk Sale

Allen Mattis N5AFV, Club Historian

For a brief period of time in 1981 and 1982 an amateur radio swapfest-type of gathering known as the Super Saturday Sidewalk Sale was held in Houston. This event was held at 8 AM on the second Saturday of each month at 7800 Bissonet. The December 1981 BVARC newsletter contained a short article about the Super Saturday Sidewalk Sale and mentioned that this was a new event in Houston and that the December Super Saturday Sidewalk Sale would mark the fourth month for this event. The last mention in the BVARC newsletters of the Super Saturday Sidewalk Sale event was in the March 1982 calendar of events. The BVARC newsletter did not mention who sponsored this popular event, but the Super Saturday Sidewalk Sale apparently faded away after a run of seven months.

In 1989, a group of Houston area amateur radio operators decided to resurrect the monthly Sidewalk Sale. Bill Hickox, K5BDZ, was the principal organizer of this new Sidewalk Sale. The first mention of the new Sidewalk Sale in the BVARC newsletter appears as a listing in the monthly calendar of the October 1989 B-VARC Bulletin.

The new Sidewalk Sale was held on the third Saturday of each month at 7 AM in the parking lot of Mission Communications located at 11903 Alief-Clodine Road (west extension of Harwin) and South Kirkwood Road. At times the Sidewalk Sale was more than just a swapfest. The January 20, 1990 Sidewalk Sale was combined with a fox hunt or search for a hidden transmitter. Attendance continued to grow and by the end of 1990 the Sidewalk Sale was becoming too large for the strip center parking lot where Mission Communications was located.

In early 1991 when I was president of BVARC, Bill Hickox approached me and asked if BVARC would consider sponsoring the Sidewalk Sale as a club event. If the Sidewalk Sale was sponsored by a club that had ARRL liability insurance permission could be secured to use a larger parking lot. The BVARC Board of Directors approved the request. We did not know at the time that down the road this decision would lead to problems for the club.

With proof of liability insurance, Bill Hickox was able to get approval to use a large parking lot in the Parkshire Center located at Murphy Road & Highway 59. The amateur radio operators liked the location because there was restaurant across the street where they could eat breakfast. The official start time for the Sidewalk Sale was changed to 8 AM, but many attendees continued to arrive earlier and all of the good deals were gone by 8 AM.

At the November 7, 1991 BVARC Board of Directors meeting the topic of the Sidewalk Sale came up. The minutes from the meeting state "The owner of the property where the monthly Sidewalk sale is held called wanting to know if we had information about the person who made deep tire tracks in the parking lot. The property owner said he was aware the damage was not caused by any of those attending the Sidewalk Sale, but thought we might have some information about who may have done it." Relations between BVARC and the property owner remained cordial.

In late 1993 Sidewalk Sale attendees were in for a surprise. A representative of the Texas Comptrollers Office showed up at the Sidewalk Sale and informed everyone who was selling anything at the Sidewalk Sale that they were required to collect sales tax on what was sold and to submit the sales tax to the State of Texas. He proceeded to hand out state tax forms to be filled out and mailed to Austin. I do not believe that any of the amateur radio operators complied with his instructions.

The matter came to a head in January. The minutes from the January 6, 1994 BVARC Board of Directors meeting state "Discussion was held regarding the Sidewalk sale. The club had received a letter from the State Comptroller's office regarding the collection of sales tax during events such as the sidewalk sale. A motion was made, seconded, and passed that B-VARC would not sponsor any such "Sidewalk Sales". Betty Wilcox, KA0TEN, volunteered to send out a special mailing regarding this decision."

The letter to BVARC came from John Sharp, the legendary state comptroller of Texas from 1991 through 1998 who has been credited with saving Texas taxpayers over \$8 billion and helping to divert a state income tax in 1991. Sharp implied that BVARC owed the state a considerable amount of sales tax money from the Sidewalk Sale, and even suggested that the state might go after BVARC for sale taxes not collected at the annual hamfest in Houston that was not even sponsored by BVARC. Apparently Sharp finally figured out that the assets of BVARC were not large enough to bother going after and the matter died. Sharp, who later ran for lieutenant governor in 1998 and 2002 and was defeated both times, is currently a principal in the Dallas-based company, Ryan & Company, one of the leading tax services firms in the country.

A Short Remembrance of My Friend -- K5BDZ

Bill Hickox – K5BDZ, died on April 20, 2009

Now, who'd want to go through life being known as a Big Dumb Zebra? One guess is all you need—Bill Hickox, K5BDZ—well, actually, William Horace Hickox, III. He was a good ham, a good neighbor, and a good friend to many of us. Bill lived just a few blocks from me in Sharpstown for many years and was an important part of my reentry into the ham radio hobby in the mid 80's. I first met him in 1986 at a garage sale, a few blocks from his Sharpstown home, where I stopped and noticed some antenna insulators, etc. When I asked about them, the garage sale lady called for Bill to talk to me. So, I certainly don't claim to have known Bill for very long, unlike some others might, but he and I became fast friends. Bill was your typical old-school ham, full of information and glad to dish it out, all of which fulfilled my heavy thirst for radio knowledge.

Bill's QRZ.com entry says it all, succinctly; "Licensed since 1955. Enjoy QRP, including designing, building, testing, experimenting with all types of QRP equipment, and all types of antennas and related equipment. Also enjoy traveling to Europe, fly fishing, and sharing all with family."

As far as traveling and the last 5 years or so, I will leave that to others to comment, but if you would like to read one of Bill's travelogues, link to:

<http://www.bensbauernhof.com/billsbackroadsaug01.html>

Now, as far as ham radio goes, this I know. Bill, born in 1941, grew up in Phillips, Texas. To find Phillips, you have to go way up to the Panhandle of Texas, go northeast of Amarillo to Borger, and then just northeast, immediately adjacent to Borger, is Phillips. "Horace Hickox" attended schools in Phillips and Phillips High School. (His mother taught elementary school). Now, the reason I know all this is that Bill happened to give me some old catalogs, etc. from Hallicrafter, National, Hammarlund, and Allied. They were all 1950s vintage books, and within those catalogs were a few snippets of K5BDZ. There was a name card from a music class in school with the name Horace Hickox written on it. There were Phillips High School folders containing all of this great radio information. However, as with all official documents, one in particular from the FCC Field Office in Dallas, it was addressed to William H. Hickox, III.

Bill came into the hobby as a 14-year old in 1955 and just in time for the greatest solar cycle in ham radio history; Cycle #19 with sun spot number peaks well over 200 in 1962. Now, one thing I noted from an old log book of K5BDZ, included in the stuff he gave me, was that he did not work a lot of DX because very few countries were recorded in the country count tracking chart and the entries in that chart were from 1958 thru 2001. So, unless I got the wrong book, Bill was not a DXer. I think that Bill worked anything and enjoyed working all contacts be they down the street or half way around the world in India (which was one of his favorite stories). His nephew, Gy, (now KA5RES) came to visit one weekend and Bill got on the HF radio to show his nephew how this ham radio stuff worked and the ham they chatted with for 20 minutes was a VU2. Boy, talk about serendipity -- great propagation and dumb luck -- hi.

I'll jump, briefly, from there to Houston in the early 80's (before I met Bill) at the UPS office on Westpark. Suzanne, Bill's wife (unknown to me then), ran the front desk, and when I met her in 1986 at their home in Sharpstown, we knew each other; small world. Sorry, I digressed.

So, I met Bill in the mid 80s about the time that he started Tejas RF. His company (with products, for example, the Back Packer series of QRP rig kits) was one of the first companies to address the oncoming QRP kit building trend that is such a massive part of ham radio today. Bill's designs and products were published, reviewed, and much sought after by the QRP community. Bill was onto something and if I had to make a present day comparison, I would compare him to Elecraft. He had some innovations in his designs that were ground breaking. Of course, being Bill, he was always willing to share these ideas and his experiments with me out in his little red barn building at the house on Rowan.

Bill and I shared our passion for antennas from a theoretical and practical sense. We were always trading parts, books, and ideas; hence, we got along very well. I sincerely appreciated his knowledge, as he was from the old

school and knew what the heck he was talking about. In retrospect, I would compare Bill to Lou Kronberg, W5IHY (SK). Lou is another old school, antenna fanatic friend that I miss having around.

So in these few short years that I had known Bill, I came to know him fairly well from a ham radio perspective. I also met the folks he knew and influenced, like WN5A, K5BGB, W5TOM, and K5ZTY, to name just a few. We all respected his radio knowledge, but for me, I also respected his candor. Some would argue that his candor was a bit overboard. But if you knew Bill, he was really a pussy cat with a tiger imbedded within. That tiger would bear its claws occasionally and for good reason. Bill, of course, would tell you why in full detail and I appreciated that. Bill was straight shooter. One of his favorite sayings was, “if you are not ready for the answer, don’t ask the question”.

I’m sure there are others that have known Bill longer and better. For me, radio electronics has been in my blood since I was in 4th grade. I, as the other hams I mentioned, have a passion and love for the hobby, the people, the technology, and the fundamental natural phenomenon of RF. I know for certain that Bill felt that way too. We are a strange lot, ham radio ops, but we do have a fierce and meaningful camaraderie within the ranks. We will all sadly, but surely miss the Big Dumb Zebra. Rest in Peace, K5BDZ, 73. dit dit dit dah dit dah dit dit

Rick – W5RH



Minutes of April 2, 2009 Board of Directors meeting of the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club:

BVARC BOD Meeting – April 2, 2009
Giribaldi’s Pizza – Sugar Land Mall

Attendees:

- Board-- K5LBU, K5ADA, W5RH, N5VCX, K5NDB
- Non-Board—AK5G, W5CAM, W5HFF

Old Business:

- \$200 Approval for donation and purchase of ARRL Library Book set for Austin Middle School – NT5SM Request
- \$250 Approval / Donation approval for MERA Repeater Association
- \$250 Approval / Donation to WA5CYI (Pump Fawcett) Repeater Support
- Web site move, by W5CAM, to QTH.com. Associated additional costs were approved.
- All BVARC activities, domains and data will be hosted and controlled by QTH.com.

New Business:

- N5XZ (via W5RH) HF Elmer’ing program – Members with HF stations to volunteer time on their stations to members that don’t have HF access for contesting and normal DX’ing operation. N5XZ to write up a proposal asking for volunteers for the newsletter and W5HFF to coordinate the Ham and Elmer.
- Field Day Coordinator needed – request to be made at the April Meeting
- Field Day location will be the Richmond Fire Training Grounds
- Boy Scout Troop will be camping there and thoughts are to coordinate a merit badge class, etc.
- Mike, N5VCX, to contact Boy Scouts to find out their agenda for the weekend.
- Discussion of possible “club” operation of CQWW in October, for new HF OP exposure.
- Randy, AK5G, is asking for someone to take over as trustee of the KK5W call and usage of such by years end.
- Ross, W5HFF, was suggested, approved and appointed a new board member to fill the dual slot currently held by Arnold, K5ADA

Meeting adjourned about 7:50.

Minutes taken by Rick (W5RH). Minutes submitted by Pete (KD5QPX) who was not at the meeting.

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:

Arnold Knocht, K5ADA
jakadaok@aol.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 BREAKFAST

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

THIRD FRIDAY DINNER: May 15, 2009, 7:00p.m.

PANDA GARDEN CHINESE RESTAURANT, 1043 Eldridge Road at
Jesse Pirtle Blvd. in Sugar Land.

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>

Johnny Pittman Memorial Swapfest (Smithville)

16 May 2009

Vernon Richards Riverbend Park

[Intersection of Highway 71 & Colorado River](#)

Smithville, TX

Bastrop County Amateur Radio Club

<http://bcarc-hams.org>

Talk-In: 145.35 & 443.750 (both PL 114.8)

Pearland Tailgate Sale

Saturday, May 30, 2009 at 8:00 a.m.

Location: Pearland High School parking lot on North side of building

Time: 8:00 a.m. until ?

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)



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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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MAY 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, May 14.

Multiple Presentations including: Hams for Hospitals, Museum Ships Event, Historical Vignette – Houston Amateur Radio Club and possibly a Trivia Quiz w/ door prizes.

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