



# BRAZOS VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



AMATEUR RADIO FOR SOUTHWEST HOUSTON AND FORT BEND COUNTY

MAY 2011

VOLUME 35 ISSUE 5

## BVARC MAY GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

7:30 PM, Thursday, May 12, 2011

226 Matlage Way Community Center, Sugar Land, Texas

### Operating the Original Digital Mode – CW

Join us for the next of this year's meetings focusing on the theme of "Get on the Air". John, K5IZO, and Ross, W5HFF, will guide us through adding another mode of operation to your repertoire. They will show the tradeoffs of CW operations, both pro and con, and then present the easiest way to achieve this mode. If you've ever wondered "how to get started" in CW, please join us! And, for you old hats at sending Morse code, join in to help the new HF operators get "on board" using the original digital mode.

**NOTE:** All meetings from March through June will be at our "regular" meeting location – the Sugarland Community Center on Matlage Way.



## APRIL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING REPORT

The first Joint Meeting of BVARC and the Texas DX Society (TDXS) was held on April 14 and featured two presentations by members of TDXS.

The first presentation was on "The C91, Mozambique DXpedition by six of TDXS members". Jim N4AL presented a very enjoyable slide presentation of recent DXpeditions. Additional info can be found at: <http://www.tdxs.net/c91.html>

Next, Cal WF5W walked us through "How to Organize a Successful DXpedition" explaining many of the learnings TDXS has made in organizing their outings over the years.

# Presidents Corner

## By Rick Hiller – W5RH

### The Land of Opportunity

OK, so you recently got your license. Upgraded from Technician to General or Extra. Congratulations! Now it's time to put that license to use. You already had the VHF/UHF bands, but what you added was HF (High Frequency) permissions. The Shortwave bands – and some Longwave bands/ Low bands 80 and 160. So what do you do? You read a bunch of books and it still doesn't make quite enough sense for you to take the plunge of getting a rig, watt meter, matching network (tuner) coax and an antenna of some sort. A bit of trepidation haunts your inner soul. What if I mess up? What if I make a mistake – is the FCC going to get me? Maybe I should do digital modes, then I don't really have to talk....etc. Sound familiar? If it does sound familiar, don't fret. We have all been there at some point in our Amateur Radio hobby careers. We all put stations together, some with help from an Elmer and some without. We built simple antennas just to get on the air.....we improved them over time. We got on the air, one QSO at a time. With each one more confidence comes. With each QSO we reach out to those who have been there and done exactly what you are doing. Step by step things improve, equipment gets better, antennas become a focus of good conditions and operation. Remember, Ham Radio is a journey, not a destination. Some that have been in it for decades still can find something new to learn. But, we all started where you are. Relax, well...OK...it's OK to be nervous. Enjoy the novelty of it all. Ask those dumb questions, hook up those wires wrongly, blow a few fuses. Learn from experience and take advantage of all the opportunities that the hobby presents.

Speaking of opportunity. In the next 2 months there is a fair amount of club "in the field and on the air activity". I encourage you to partake in the fun. Museum Ships Weekend (MSWE) is on the first weekend of June and ARRL Field Day is the fourth full weekend in June. But, it's only May, you say.....why the mention in the May Newsletter?

Well, for one, Museum Ships happens before the June Newsletter is published. The more important reason, though, is that there is a substantial amount of planning (and work) that happens before both of these events actually come to fruition. Bill Stone, our Chief of Logistics for BVARC MSWE on Pelican Island, Galveston, has been working for a few months on the BVARC operation. BVARC members and non-members have been prepping the ships for on-board operation utilizing the ship's wire antennas. (A fair undertaking when you are dealing with things that are 70 years old). For more details, see the MSWE articles later in this newsletter and note that BVARC has donated \$250 to the Cavalla Foundation and has, again, provided the MSWE BVARC operation with operational funding.

Also intensely working and planning are our Field Day Co-chairs: Ross, W5HFF, and Kirk (our VP), KK2Z. They have been hard at it, figuring out what class to run and how to get more folks out to have some fun. Your mission, fellow BVARC'er, should you decide to accept it, is to note your calendar on that weekend and come out to BVARC Field Day to help set up, operate CW, SSB or other mode, help cook some great food, eat some great food, bring a non-ham friend to work the GOTA (Get On the Air Station), work the satellites, work VHF and UHF, help Bill's 10 meter Marauders make Q's or even help tear down. Field Day weekend is the one weekend where we definitely get to be Hams and play with all of our great radio toys by getting on the air and contacting folks all over the US of A. What more can you ask for!

Other May opportunities – start learning the Morse Code, work some 17 Meter SSB -- the bands are opening up, check into the PS Net, the Rag Chew and the CW Net, come to WS5H's MSWE planning meeting, attend the BVARC BOD meeting and the monthly meeting (it's all about CW), go to the Dayton Ham-vention in Ohio, and don't forget to hug your Mother on May 8<sup>th</sup>. Enjoy your hobby of opportunity.

See you on the radio. Rick – W5RH (dit dit)

# River Oaks Car Stereo

4129 Richmond (near Wesleyan) 713-626-7627  
Houston, Texas 77027

Car Stereo-Car Alarms-Ham Radio-Mobile Video-Radar Detectors-Police Scanners- Bluetooth  
Hands Free Phone Kits-IPOD Integration-  
Emergency Strobe Lights

**HOUSTON'S ONLY MFJ DEALER**

Let Us Install Your Mobile Ham Gear



ALINCO- GRE-DIAMOND-LARSEN-ARIES-CHANNELMASTER-FIRESTICK  
Eddie -NU5K- Dwayne - KB5YTA  
Russell - KE5YYT- Eddie Jr-KB5OBB  
Patricia -KE5YYV- Suzanne -KF5GWZ

[www.riveroakscarstereo.com](http://www.riveroakscarstereo.com)

[www.installer.com](http://www.installer.com)

HAM RADIO IS BACK IN HOUSTON AGAIN!



## 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:

1/17 - 29 - Dwayne, kb5yta  
1/24 - 29 - Pete, kd5qpx  
1/31 - 29 - Sid, n5zkd  
2/7 - 40 - Cam, k5cam  
2/14 - 32 - Clint, kd5hdf

2/21 - 34 - Bill, ws5h  
2/28 - 38 - Pete, kd5qpx  
3/7 - 31 - Pete, kd5qpx  
3/14 - 30 - Clint, kd5hdf  
3/21 - 37 - Dewayne, kb5yta

3/28 - 32 - Pete, kd5qpx  
4/4 - 25 - Cam, k5cam  
4/11 - 22 - Sid, n5zkd  
4/18 - 33 - Cam, k5cam  
4/25 - 30 - Pete, kd5qpx





**BVARC “Under 15” CW Net**  
**Tuesday 7PM**  
**3.550 MHz**

Join us for a fun filled 30 to 45 minutes of working the CW mode. We welcome the new folks with open arms , so join us. Net is transmitted at 11/15 WPM Farnsworth spacing, so it is easy to copy. The net structure is just like the Rag Chew Net on Wednesday nights. Pre-ambler, then the call for check-ins “QNI?”.... and then each station is called “QTT” to invite them to transmit a short greeting or message.  
Net Control Station (NCS) is Rick, W5RH.

Frequency is on **3.550 MHz**. Listen to a sample pre-ambler (mp3) on the CW Net web page at <http://bvarc.org/index.php?page=cwnet>  
Just have a listen or join in, but do get on the air and have some fun with some slow speed CW.



**RESULTS OF THE APRIL 12 BVARC AMATEUR EXAMINATION SESSION**  
**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, April 12, 2010 at HCC's Scarcella Science & Technology Building here in Stafford.

MEMBERS OF THE VE TEAM:

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

Two examination elements were administered during the evening to two applicants. One new Technician and an upgrade to General class license was attained; with the total number of elements passed being 2. The overall "pass rate" for the evening was 100%.

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

Hugh T. Burgess - K5HTB - General  
Yul L. Hubbard, Sr. - {KF5KQY} - Technician

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.

..... 73 .....



## **BVARC clothing:**

Are you proud to be a BCARC'ER? If so you can now get club clothing. Your Board has approved colors for shirts, jackets and hats. If you were at the last BVARC meeting, we were joined by the TDXS club. They were all in green and it looked good.

Well the colors your Board approved at its last Board meeting are: Shirts with a primary color of "Maroon" and a secondary color of "Navy Blue", Jacket is a light weight Kaki color with a green lining. The Hat is "Royal Blue". All of these come with the BVARC logo embroidered on them. For example the jacket can have the logo placed on both back, with a large logo and on the front with a small logo. It also would have your name and call sign.

If you only wanted the hat, you can get BVARC logo over the bill of the hat. Then you can have your name and call sign place on the front or back. Bill Stone wants his on the front so people would not need to turn around to know who he is.

The initial order has been made. We were required to make a 30 piece order to start. We were able to come up with 40 pieces. So when those of you who plan to go to the "Museum Ship" weekend, or even when it comes time for field day, you would look sharp representing the BVARC Radio Club, because you all would look like you are part of a team.

So now your might be thinking, "is it too late to order my shirt, jacket or even just a hat?" No its not. In fact you can order it direct for the approved BVARC clothing distributor. You can call B&B Embroidery direct. David Birdsley, KF8WS, will take your call and help you with your order. You can look at a catalog on the BVARC website and see what you might like to order. Then call 817-471-4488 or you can go directly to their website which is [www.hamthreads.com](http://www.hamthreads.com) and order and pay online. But if you go online, you can't get the Club discount pricing.

Be proud of your Club and show your colors. So when you show your colors, people know that you are involved with a group of volunteers who are proud of their Club.

If you have questions or have comments please send them to me. My email address is [n5jslbob@gmail.com](mailto:n5jslbob@gmail.com).



## **MUSEUM SHIPS FINAL PLANNING MEETING**

THE FINAL PLANNING FOR THE MUSEUM SHIPS WEEKEND WILL BE THURSDAY MAY 5th AT FUDDRUCKERS AT THE FOUNTAINS BETWEEN AIRPORT AND US 90 SW FREEWAY SERVICE ROAD OUTBOUND SIDE DIRECTLY AFTER THE REGULAR BVARC BOARD MEETING. THE BOD MEETING STARTS AT 7PM AND LASTS ABOUT 1 HR. THIS IS AN OPEN MEETING SO FEEL FREE TO ATTEND IT AS WELL. AGENDA FOR MSWE :OVERVIEW OF EVENT TO THE BOARD, A FEW DO's AND DONT"s, IRON OUT A LOOSE END OR TWO ON VOLUNTEER SLOTS AND AFFIRMATION OF SECURITY IN THE SHIP RADIO ROOMS. XO's FOR THE EVENT ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND.

# THE BVARC Rag Chew Net

## April check-ins

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

03/30/11, K5LKJ (NCS), K5CEK, WS5H, W5TKZ, AF5T, K0NM, K5NDB, WA5CYI, N5CPA, K5LJ, KE5SR, WB5VYR, K5IZO, WD0EMN, KF5IVI, WB5PNL (Beach City), N5DTT, W5TOM, KF5HDR (T), WA5FMK, KE5HSW, KB5LKE, KE5OBY, KG5VU, KC5JAR. (25 Check-Ins)  
Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 116, SN = 108, A = 2, K = 1

04/06/11, K5LKJ (NCS), K5CEK, W5TOM, WS5H, AA5OA, K5NDB, W5TKZ, K5IZO/5 (P)(Jasper), K5LJ, W5RH, K0NM, N5CPA, WB5PNL (Beach City), N5DTT, WD5DMN, NU5K, WB5VYR, AF5T, W5RJA (T) (Round Rock), KE5HDF, KE5OBY, KF5JM (Pasadena), K5UZ (Austin), KB5IJF (Huffman). (24 Check-Ins)  
Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 109, SN = 65, A = 4, K = 4

04/13/11, K5LKJ (NCS), K5CEK, K0NM, K5LJ, N5CPA, K5NDB, WS5H, AA5OA, WA5CYI, N9KGF (Monroe, LA), W5TKZ, W5RH, KF5IVI, WA5FMK, K5IZO, AF5T, W5RJA (T) (Round Rock), WB5PNL (Beach City), N5DTT, K5LBU, NT5SM, KE5OBY, K5HTB/AG (T), KA5MEI (Hockley), WA5NSF.  
(25 Check-Ins)  
Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 110, SN = 114, A = 16, K = 2

04/20/11, K5LKJ (NCS), WS5H, W5TOM, AA5OA, W5TKZ, K5NDB, K5LJ, K5LBU, K5IZO/5 (P)(Jasper), W5RH, N5DTT, WB5PNL (Beach City), N5CPA. (13 Check-Ins)  
Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 111, SN = 76, A = 6, K = 3

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

Thanks.

Regards.\_  
John C. Whiteman



## MUSEUM SHIPS WEEKEND 2011

June 4 - 5, 2011

0000Z June 4, through 2359Z June 5, 2011

**BVARC club call KK5W will operate the USS CAVALLA and the USS STEWART in the ship's radio rooms as a wild card 2 for 1 contact in this world wide event. We will also have a park radio station set up as well. If you want to operate or come out, tour the ships and help out, please contact Bill WS5H to get on the park entry list.**

**Email [dragntow@wt.net](mailto:dragntow@wt.net) or phone 713-776-1030. This is a rare event at the park as it is one of the few times the radio rooms are open for viewing. Come see the restoration work done and in progress by Cavalla volunteers aboard the ship's radio rooms. Some of the volunteers are BVARC members. We will use the ship's original longwire antennas to make contacts in the event. For more info check the BVARC.org website and our BVARC e-mail reflector. Info on the event can be found on the NJ2BB website. That is the Battleship New Jersey website. <http://nj2bb.org/museum/index.html>.**

**I HOPE YOU CAN COME ABOARD**

**73 Bill, WS5H**



## BVARC Historical Vignettes – A Look at BVARC in 1984

Allen Mattis N5AFV, Club Historian

I was looking through some of the club newsletters from the past and an article in the January 1985 newsletter entitled “A Synopsis of 1984” caught my attention. The article was a synopsis of club activities for the previous year. Club records indicate that BVARC membership in 1984 was only 84 members, however, the list of accomplishments is very impressive for a club of that size, and a club that had only been in existence for seven years.

The 1984 club banquet in January was held at the Swinging Door restaurant, and the 1983 Order of Key was awarded to Wade Eilers, WN5TEN, and Steve Gottlieb, WA5OEN. The Order of the Key award was instituted by the club in 1980, and this was the first time two Order of the Key awards were given the same year.

In December 1983 the FCC announced that the Volunteer Examiner program would take over testing for amateur radio operators. BVARC was quick to respond and the club’s VE program was established in 1984.

BVARC’s application to become an ARRL Special Service Club was approved in September 1984 after a 22 month-long application process.

During 1984 the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club held two novice classes for new hams.

The BVARC Rag Chew Net was established in 1984, initially meeting on the 10 meter band, but changing to the 75 meter band after a few months.

A Slow Speed CW Net was also instituted in 1984 on the 15 meter band, but by the end of the year it had moved to the 80 meter band.

The club continued the successful Sharpstown Mall Mothers Day event that it had started in 1982. Radio stations were set up in Sharpstown Mall and shoppers were asked if they wanted to send a radiogram to their mothers wishing them a happy Mother’s Day. A total of 84 messages destined for 25 states and two foreign countries were handled.

Other club activities included supporting Southwest Houston Area ARES, and participating in the November ARES Simulated Emergency Test (SET), having club members participate in upgrading the MERA repeater, and reformatting and upgrading the club newsletter.

The year 1984 was certainly a pivotal year for the Brazos Valley amateur Radio Club. The club had grown to the size where it could begin to expand its activities. Some of those accomplishments and activities have continued to the present time, such as the club’s VE program, being an ARRL Special Service Club, the having a weekly Rag Net.



### Old laptop computers needed.

**BVARC needs your old laptops. At least 5 are needed for Field Day, the Museum Ship’s Weekend and other activities. These need not be current and we can even use machines as old as Windows 98. It is important however that they be fully functional. We don’t need any crashes during these events. If you want to make a tax deductible donation of such a computer to BVARC, contact Robert Polinski (KD5YVQ - [emdhouston@cebridge.net](mailto:emdhouston@cebridge.net)) to make the arrangements.**



# AMSAT JOURNAL ARTICLE on AMSAT activity at the Greater Houston Hamfest.

This article was published in the latest AMSAT Journal and is reprinted with their permission.

## Hamfest Season is Here!

### Another Successful Greater Houston Hamfest

by Allen F. Mattis, N5AFV, n5afv@amsat.org

AMSAT was well represented this year at the Greater Houston Hamfest (GHH) held March 5, 2011 at the Fort Bend County Fairgrounds in Rosenberg, Texas, southwest of Houston. The GHH is the second largest, and the fastest growing, hamfest in Texas. This year the GHH again hosted the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) South Texas Section Convention. Harold Kramer, WJ1B, chief operating officer of the ARRL, was the featured speaker.

The GHH had over 18,000 square feet of indoor exhibit space, tables for vendors and individuals, Amateur Radio related presentations, exhibits, VE test sessions, and a free tailgate area with early buyer access before the main hall opened. QSL-card checking for the ARRL VUCC award was provided by AMSAT Director of Contests and Awards, Bruce Paige, KK5DO.

The AMSAT booth was manned by Andy MacAllister, WSACM, and Bruce, KK5DO,

along with assistance from Allen Mattis, N5AFV, Mike Scarcella, WA5TWT, Charlie Keng, K5ENG, A.C. Spraggins, W5EZM, and Tony Summerville, N5RPQ. A non-ham, electrical engineer from India stopped by the AMSAT booth and was very surprised to learn that Amateur Radio operators use satellites. He was even more surprised to learn that India has a very active AMSAT group and has even built and launched

*continued next page ...*



Photo 1: Andy, WSACM, and Bruce, KK5DO, put final touches on the AMSAT booth. (Photograph provided by N5AFV)



Photo 2: George, WA5KBH, contended with very strong winds during the satellite demonstration. (Photograph provided by Travis Burgess, K5HTB)



Figure 3: Allen, N5AFV, operating a receiving station at the satellite demonstration while David Bankhead, KC5LSP, looks on. (Photograph provided by Travis Burgess, K5HTB)



Figure 4: Will, N5ESA, operating a receiving station at the satellite demonstration. (Photograph provided by WSACM)



**AMSAT Article continued - -**

VUSAT OSCAR-52. Hopefully his interest was piqued enough that he will become a licensed radio amateur.

A satellite demonstration was conducted during an almost overhead pass of Saudi OSCAR-50. A cold front accompanied by rain showers moved through the area just prior to the satellite pass. Fortunately the rain had stopped in time for the pass, but there were sustained NNW winds of 28 mph with gusts to 45 mph during the satellite demonstration. It was difficult to hold an Arrow antenna steady in the strong wind gusts, but George Carr, WA5KBH, successfully made a dozen contacts with his Icom W32A and Arrow antenna. Approximately 18 people braved the cold and winds for the satellite demonstration. Receive-only stations were operated by Will Thomas, N5ESA, Andy, W5ACM, Allen, N5AFV, and Jack Wilson.

Following the satellite demonstration, Allen, N5AFV, presented a talk entitled "ARISSat- 1 – AMSAT's Newest Satellite" that was attended by 25 people. Harold Kramer, WJ1B, from the ARRL was speaking at the same time in another room. This cut into attendance at the AMSAT talk, but the audience was very interested in hearing about the upcoming deployment of ARISSat- 1 and the April 12, 2011, Yuri's Night activities. After the presentation there was an increase in both traffic and sales at the AMSAT booth. The Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club (BVARC), organizer of the hamfest, fully supported the AMSAT activities this year with a great raffle prize - a Kenwood HF6A HT, Arrow antenna and duplexer. The lucky winner was Tim Koehl, KO3HL, of Houston. Many favorable comments from attendees regarding the AMSAT activities were received by the event Managers.



**Can you identify these?**

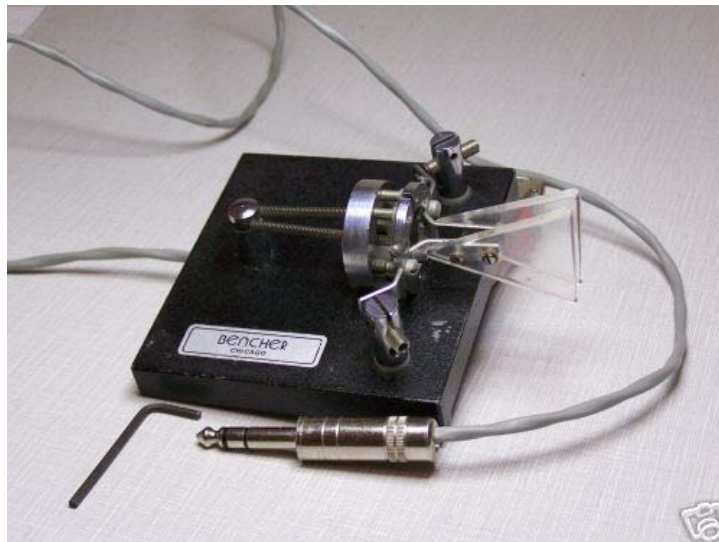


## Minutes of the April, 2011 Board of Directors meeting of the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club:

Rick Hiller called the monthly Board of Directors meeting for the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club to order at 7:00 PM on April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011 at Fudrucker's, 11445 Fountain Lake Drive, Stafford, TX. Attending were: Rick Hiller, W5RH (Pres.); Bob Tomlinson, N5JSL (Cor. Sec.); Peter Sauermilch, KD5QPX (Rec. Sec.); Dwane Jones, KB5YTA (2yr At-Large Dir.); Bill Stone, WS5H (1yr At-Large Dir.); Ross Lawler, W5HFF (2yr At-Large Dir.); Eddie Runner, NU5K (Webmaster); Suzanne Runner, KF5GWZ; Norma Stone, KE5NDN; Sharon Tomlinson; Cameron Mitchell, K5CAM; David Barber, K5NDB

- 1) Minutes for the March 2011 meeting were approved as previously distributed by email and appears in the April 2011 newsletter.
- 2) Treasurer's Report was presented to and approved by the Board.
- 3) Old Business:
  - a) Asset List: No action. Stone suggested that everyone look for club property at events like field day. Runner stated that the list has thirty-three items.
  - b) Clothing: Tomlinson stated he contacted Dave Bidsley of B&B Embroidery. Tomlinson proposed that the club establish several color choices for club clothing. He proposed the shirt to be either blue or maroon, hat blue, and the light jacket khaki. The board adopted the color choices.
- 4) New business:
  - a) Historical Records: Bud King delivered to Hiller a quantity of records that Hiller is assessing.
  - b) Museum Ships Weekend: Stone approached the board for support for Museum Ship Weekend. The board approved a \$250 donation to the Cavala Historical Foundation and up to \$500 for consumables for the event.
  - c) Field Day: Kirk Kendrick and Ross Lawler will co-chair the event for this year.
  - d) Meeting Locations: Starting October 2011, the Matledge Way Community Center will be closed for a year for renovation. A search is underway for alternatives.
- 5) Schedule:
  - a) April: TxDX
  - b) May: CW with Museum Ships Weekend announcement
  - c) June: Digital operations with Field Day announcement and MSWE readout
- 6) Other Business:
  - a) June 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>: Plano National Convention
- 7) Meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM

Submitted by Recording Secretary, Peter Sauermilch, KD5QPX



Bencher BY-1 Iambic Key

2011 Club Officers:

President:

Rick Hiller, W5RH  
[rhiller@sdicgm.com](mailto:rhiller@sdicgm.com)

Vice President:

Kirk Kendrick, KK2Z  
[kmkendrick@gmail.com](mailto:kmkendrick@gmail.com)

Corresponding Secretary

Robert Tomlinson

Treasurer:

Arnold Knoche, K5ADA  
[jakadaok@aol.com](mailto:jakadaok@aol.com)

Recording Secretary:

Pete Sauermilch, KD5QPX  
[kd5qpx@arrl.net](mailto:kd5qpx@arrl.net)

Board Member:

Dywane Jones, KB5YTA

Board Member:

Ross Lawler, W5HFF  
[w5hff@yahoo.com](mailto:w5hff@yahoo.com)

At Large Board Member

(One year – vs Past President)):

Bill Stone, WS5H

---

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](mailto: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, 7:30a.m., SW Freeway outbound service road, near  
Kirkwood.

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

### THURSDAYS BEFORE CLUB MEETINGS--6.15p.m.

VASOS BAR-B-Q, 9920 Hwy. 90-A, #D-120 on the SW corner of  
US Hwy. 90-A and Dairy Ashford.

### OTHER HAM GROUPS:

#### WEDNESDAYS – WEDNESDAY LUNCH BUNCH

LUBY'S CAFETERIA, 10:30a.m. to 12:00Noon +, 9797 South Post  
Oak Road, just south of the I-610 Loop in Meyer Park Shopping  
Center.

#### WEDNESDAYS – AMSAT & QRP GROUP

PAPPAS BAR-B-Q, 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>

### **Smithville Hamfest 2011 05/07/2011**

Dr. George M. Jones VFW Post 1309  
557 Loop 230 North  
Smithville, TX 78957

**Website:** <http://www.bcarc-hams.org/>

**Talk-In:** 145.35 & 443.75 (PL 114.8)

### **HamCom & ARRL National Convention, Plano, TX. June 10.**

Plano Convention Centre  
2000 East Spring Creek Parkway  
Plano, TX 75023

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

**Talk-In:** 147.180 MHz (PL 107.2)

### **TARS Hamfest, Texas City, TX - 7/09/2011**

Doyle Convention Center  
2010 5th Avenue North  
Texas City, TX 77590

**Website:** <http://www.tidelands.org>

**Talk-In:** 147.140+ (PL 167.9)





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](mailto:k5izo@yahoo.com)  
Production Team: Cameron Mitchell, K5CAM, [k5cam@arri.net](mailto: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 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 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](mailto:w5hff@yahoo.com) or see the BVARC website: [www.bvarc.org](http://www.bvarc.org)

---

**VOLUME 35, ISSUE 5**

**MAY 2011**

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

**FIRST CLASS POSTAGE**

BVARC General Membership Meeting – May 12, Sugar Land Community Center

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