



BRAZOS VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



AMATEUR RADIO FOR SOUTHWEST HOUSTON AND FORT BEND COUNTY

JULY 2011

VOLUME 35 ISSUE 7



BVARC JULY GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

7:30 PM, Thursday, July 14, 2011

226 Matlage Way Community Center, Sugar Land, Texas

Triple Play – Museum Ships Weekend, Field Day, & Dayton

Join us at the July meeting for readouts on three great amateur radio events!

- Museum Ships Weekend – Bill WS5H
- Field Day 2011 – Moderators -- Kirk KK2Z and Ross W5HFF
- Dayton Hamvention 2011 – Rick W5RH

The moderators above will start with a short presentation, but all those involved in the events will join in on the discussion. Learn about what you can do “in the field”.

NOTE: All meetings now through September will be at our “regular” meeting location – the Sugarland Community Center on Matlage Way.



June Meeting Report

Kirk KK2Z (our VP) talked about *Operating HF Digital “on the cheap”*. Kirk showed both a homemade and commercial “sound card” digital interface used between his FT-817 and computer for HF digital operations. The “talk” included sounds of popular HF digital mode transmissions. Although Kirk was “antenna limited”, he demonstrated the use of HRD, Digipan, and Hamscope (all free) to make RTTY and PSK31 contacts.



Presidents Corner By Rick Hiller – W5RH

One Piece at a Time

The late, great Johnny Cash wrote a song in 1976 about building a Cadillac by stealing parts out of the factory, “one piece at a time”. He finally got it together at the end of the song, but he had a few complications. It was a unique idea and a fairly low “under the radar” way to get a Cadillac. A great idea (or even knowledge itself) is the slow contiguous combination and the stepping through one small aspect at a time. Like a knitted sweater, each stitch by itself is insignificant, but is part of the whole sweater, which we can then wear to show to the world. At first the knitting task seems inundating, but with each stitch it gets closer to the completed sweater. This is comparable to looking in QST and seeing a 6 position multi-multi contest station with multiple towers with multiple antennas. Definitely inundating. You must realize, though, that the station was not built in a day. It probably started out as a single op position with one yagi and wires for 40 and 80. Slowly over time the station learned what needed improvement and how best to employ the things learned. Your home station building is the same way. You start out with what you can afford, you put up the antennas that you can and you work the stations that you hear.....(missing of course the juicy DX that you hear other people working). Hearing this DX being work, though, makes you want to improve your station. But you deal with what you have, you figure out the bands to work, the modes to work, the areas of the world to work, the best times of the day, etc. Each new aspect that you learn is added to your overall knowledge. Sometimes this takes many years to go through the growth process, sometimes it is shorter – depending on money, time, money, available antenna space, money, spouses attitude, money, etc.

There is an “Elmer” (see last month’s PC column) in all of us. It is that part of you that wants to know it all, build it all, work it all. By having this ‘want’ you by yourself strive to get better. Rome wasn’t built in a day and neither was the stations of, for example, N5XZ, K5LJ, WS5H, NU5K, etc. I bet you every ham that you talk to that has been in this hobby for 10 years or more can tell you of a progression of stations from the humble beginnings up to the current Software Defined Radio being driven by a computer. Some progressions are at a slow rate of change; others are fast...again the money, time, thing. The goal, in the end, is progress. As long as you are moving forward at either a rapid or even at a glacial speed, at least you are moving forward.

One goal that we should all have is that of “striving to have fun”. KISS and KIF (Keep It Simple and Keep it Fun) June was the perfect opportunity to have some fun operating at the Museum Ships Weekend and the BVARC gathering for Field Day 2011. (Unfortunately, due to travel, I missed both) Reports have been rolling in of the successes with organization, weather, QSO’s worked, people to assist, eating, etc. Exactly what a Ham Radio club should do: operate Ham Radio events. My hat is off to those that made it happen, like Bill, WS5H; Ron, AE5NO; Dwayne, KB5YTA; Kirk, KK2Z; Ross, W5HFF and many others who helped a lot or those that helped a little. It takes all sorts to have an event pan out well.

So let’s keep it all rolling into the second part of the year with some great meetings, technical topics and fun social events from August and November, like the Ice Cream Social, BLT-27 launch and the Chili Supper. Kirk has a good manifest of radio and operating topics planned for the other months. One to look forward to is our December Homebrew Night. Now is the time to get that project moving and grooving. Summer is the “inside” time of the year here in Houston. Plan and model those antenna

projects for the Fall and Winter. Get out in your workshop and build a new radio desk or get out the books and learn how transmission lines work and function within an Amateur Radio station antenna system or better still, get on the air. Whatever it is you choose, keep active. Pick out some topic, some activity, some radio accessory or software application and strive to build it and master it. You can do it, "one piece at a time".

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



THE BVARC Rag Chew Net June check-ins

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

05/25/11, K5LKJ (NCS), N5CPA, K5LJ, K5NDB, WT5Y (Beamont), K5IZO, WS5H, KC5JAR (Katy), K5LBU, WB5PNL (Beach City), W5RH. (11 Check-Ins)

Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 80, SN = 23, A = 4, K = 1

06/01/11, K5LKJ (NCS), K5CEK, K5LBU, WS5H, K5NDB, K5IZO/5 (Jasper), K5LJ, W5TKZ, N5CPA, AA5OA, N5DTT, WB5PNL (Beach City), AF5T, KC5JAR (Katy).

(14 Check-Ins)

Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 112, SN = 132, A = 7, K = 3

06/08/11, K5LKJ (NCS), WA5CYI, W5TKZ, N5XWB, K5NDB, N5CPA, K5LBU, AA5OA, K5IZO/5 (Jasper), K5CEK, K5LJ, KF5HEB (North Richland Hills), N5DTT, K0NM, WB5PNL (Beach City), WS5H, WA5NSF (Katy), WA5NSF (Katy), KA5TJS (San Augustine), KA5MEI. (19 Check-Ins)

Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 96, SN = 58, A = 8, K = 1

06/15/11, K5LKJ (NCS), K5LBU, W5TKZ, K5CEK, WS5H, WA5CYI, K5NDB, K0NM, K5LJ, W5HFF (M) (Houston), K5IZO/5 (Jasper), AA5OA, WB5PNL (Beach City), KA5TJS (San Augustine), AF5T, K5YZS (Spring), N5DTT. (17 Check-Ins)

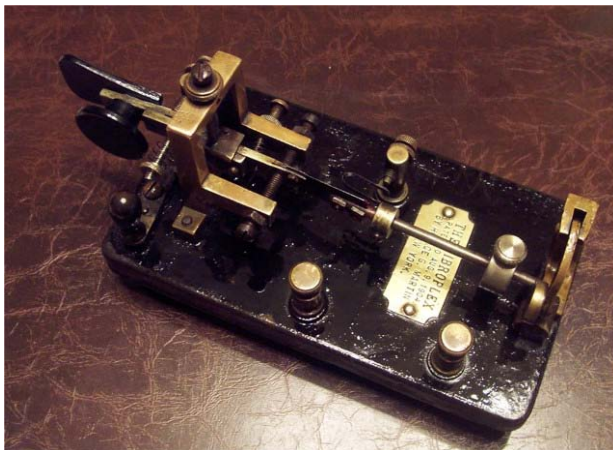
Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 99, SN = 48, A = 8, K = 2

06/22/11, K5LKJ (NCS), K5CEK, K5NDB, WS5H, N5CPA, W55RJA (T) (Round Rock), K5IZO, W5TKZ, K5LJ, AA5OA, KA5TJS (San Augustine), K5GLS (M)(R) (Shreveport, LA), N5DTT, N5JSL (T), KE5OBY (T), N5TGL (Fulshur), W5RH, W5HFF (M) (Houston), KC5JAR (Katy), WA5CYI. 20 Check-Ins)

Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 95, SN = 57, A = 8, K = 3

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

Thanks. , Regards_ John C. Whiteman



Vibroplex Serial Number 16

River Oaks Car Stereo

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Patricia -KE5YYV- Suzanne -KF5GWZ

www.riveroakscarstereo.com

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:

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
5/2 - 28 - Cam, k5cam
5/9 - 26 - Clint, kd5hdf
5/16 - 23 - Dwayne, kb5yta
5/23 - 31 - Pete, kd5qpx

5/30 - 25 - Sid,n5zkd
6/6 - 42 - Cam, k5cam
6/13 - 25 - Clint, kd5hdf
6/20 - 32 - Dwayne, kb5yta
6/27 - 37 - Cam, k5cam

RESULTS OF THE June 14 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, June 14, 2010 at HCC's Scarcella Science & Technology Building here in Stafford.

MEMBERS OF THE VE TEAM:

Dennis Dietrich, W5DDD
John Moore, KK5NU

Jeff Fussell, KD5VGE
George Ontko, KM5VP

Larry Jacobson, K5LJ

Five examination elements were administered during the evening to four applicants. One new Technician class license, and an upgrade to Amateur Extra class were attained; with the total number of elements passed being 2. The overall "pass rate" for the evening was 40%.

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

Willaim R. Crager. - {KF5LKY} - Technician
Suzanne P. Runner - KF5GWZ - Amateur Extra

Many thanks to all the Team Members and Assistants who volunteer their valuable time and effort each month. All of us at B-VARC again thank everyone at HCC Scarcella Science & Technology Building for making these excellent classroom facilities available to us for our exams each month.

..... 73



Minutes of June 2nd, 2011 Board of Directors meeting of the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club:

Arnold Knoche called the monthly Board of Directors meeting for the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club to order at 7:25 PM on June 2nd, 2011 Fudrucker's, 11445 Fountain Lake Drive, Stafford, TX . Attending were: Arnold Knoche, K5ADA (Treas.); 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, KF5HUF; Cameron Mitchell, K5CAM; Billy Jones Jr., N5EVD; Angel Abbott-Jones, KC5KRV; David Barber, K5NDB; Mike Hardwick, N5VCX; Mark Lawler.

- 1) Minutes for the May 2011 meeting were approved as previously distributed by email and appears in the June 2011 newsletter.
- 2) Treasurer's Report was presented to and approved by the Board.
- 3) Old Business:
 - a) Field Day: Hardwick suggested that two sites be considered for the event sites this year; the Sugar Land Fire Station #1 and the park on 359 in north Rosenberg. Neither site has been researched for price or permission with appropriate authority.
 - b) Museum Ships Weekend: Stone announced that 40 hams had signed up for the event with 5 to 7 wanting to spend the night on one of the ships.
 - c) Wish List: Tomlinson announced that the list of proposed club major acquisitions and gifts would be the topic for the July board meeting.
- 4) New business:
 - a) Ham Picnic: Knoche announced that there is a Ham Picnic in Segun TX on July 4th.
 - b) BVARC Flag: Jones suggested that BVARC acquire a club flag to be used at club special events like Field Day and Museum Ships. He approached a flag company and BVARC could get a 3' x 5' flag with logo for \$125. Board voted to authorize Jones to spend no more than \$150 for such a flag.
- 5) Meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM

Submitted by Recording Secretary, Peter Sauermilch, KD5QPX

BVARC Field Day 2011, by Kirk KK2Z

After Kirk KK2Z and Ross W5HFF volunteered to co-chair the Field Day committee, startling news that BVARC would have to find a new location for field day was received at the May General Membership meeting. Our usual Fort Bend Fire Training Field location was devoted to a fund raiser on Field Day weekend – no chance of using it. Although both of our co-chairs questioned their decision to volunteer, they asked the group for help finding a new location. Kirk contacted the state parks nearby (no generators after 10pm), city and county parks (no overnight camping...period), and followed up on several potential leads at other locations. Luckily, Scott NT5SM inquired about a community park outside of Pecan Grove subdivision (surprisingly named, Pecan Grove Park). The local MUD and YMCA that oversee the park gave permission to both use the park overnight and setup the necessary antennas and generators for the event.

A few club members skeptically reviewed the site – uncertain that it could be made to meet the needs of the group. Discussions of 2A (that is, only 2 HF rigs on the air at a time) had some looking for alternate groups to join. Finally, a Saturday morning meeting at the park mapped a plan for how it would all get done. Success looked possible...and the plans continued to evolve. Kirk committed to build the QST “Triplexer” that would allow 3 radios to be connected to one tri-band beam antenna for concurrent 10-15-20m operation. The plan was for those three stations plus CW on the other tri-band beam to be the core of a 4A operation – all that was needed was a few wire antennas on the low bands for late night continuity.

A minor problem did present itself – no cooking at the park was allowed except on 2 small BBQ grills. WAY too small to cook for the 40ish expected for dinner. A discussion of the merits of various BBQ alternatives landed on ordering from Swinging Door and “self catering” the event.

The frantic week before Field Day had Kirk and Ross both working late and unable to attend the Monday night BVARC 2m net. Dwayne KD5YTA did an outstanding job as net control of finding volunteers to bring equipment and committing to help setup. Wow! We’re almost there!

Friday night before Field Day – the triplexer “fails”. That is, unable to tune for less than 2:1 SWR ... and additional antennas were needed QUICKLY. Luckily Jim N5DTT had a 10m beam that was available...and Kirk had a military surplus tripod and a batch of 4’ poles to hang it on. Field day setup morning brought more portable antennas with John KD5YOU providing a 15m Buddipole to fill the void. Mike N5VCX allowed us (once again) to use his “TV” van as one tower and his antenna trailer for the second. Kirk deployed his portable TW2010 for a GOTA antenna, and Travis K5HTB erected an Elk 2m beam on a tripod mast to fill out our antenna farm.

Dwayne had arranged for his father to bring a travel trailer to use for the main CW station. That one position had a nice air conditioned setup (thanks to the van’s BIG generator). Many, many thanks to Dwayne and his family for making that possible.

Robert KD5YVQ and Josh KE5FGC setup the network, power distribution, and computers....Clean power from quiet (<60db sound and minimal ripple on AC), inverter-based generators made it all possible. Mother Nature provided a nice breeze throughout the event (all day Saturday AND Sunday!) that kept the mosquitos and other problems away.

How did the operations go??

Total Contacts	1852
CW Contacts	1201
Phone Contacts	651

At the last minute, we made the decision to operate 5A rather than 4A to allow more simultaneous operating...and more FUN during peak times. Allen N5XZ set a new personal best for Field Day with over 1000 contacts! That's more than 1/2 the total!! And, with a 2x multiplier for CW, Allen contributed 2/3 of the total points!! Come to the July presentation to see the full list – including a great performance on 6m and 10m.

John KK5NU, Bill WS5H, and Norma KE5NDN stepped up to fill in some gaps in “bonus points” at the last minute with airmail messages, public relations table, and a training event. That netted us an additional 400 points! The final tabulation on bonus points will also be presented at the July meeting.

So...I know I'm missing about 25 others that volunteered to bring equipment, help with setup and teardown, and most importantly to operate. To all of you – THANK YOU!!!

Good food, good operations, good company, and GREAT FUN!

73 de
Kirk KK2Z



Mr. CW, Allen, (N5XZ)



KD5YOU (John) & NT5SM (Scott) giving visitors a tour



Jim (N5DTT), Suzanne (KF5GWZ) and “Big John” (K5LKJ)



What a flagpole!!!

BVARC Historical Vignettes – The Viking Den Revisited

Allen Mattis N5AFV, Club Historian

The first Historical Vignette column appeared in the January 2007 BVARC newsletter and dealt with the closing of the Viking Den on Highway 90A in Stafford where the BVARC Saturday morning breakfast was held for seven years. I recently went through a packet of material given to me by Claude Sessions K5HFY before he passed away. Claude told me that the material would provide information for some of my Historical Vignette columns. In that material I found a Xerox copy of a photograph of the Viking Den as it looked in 1959 when it opened. I do not know where Claude found the picture but it appears that it was possibly copied from a newspaper article. If someone reading this vignette knows the source of the photograph please contact me.

I have been told that the Viking Den opened in 1959. The restaurant closed in December 2006 after being open for 47 years. For most of those 47 years the Foster family operated the Viking Den and treated the regular customers like family. Many BVARC members were saddened when the Viking Den closed its doors.



The Viking Den circa 1959 on the left and in December 2006 on the right

The material given to me by Claude K5HFY will provide input for a number of Historical Vignettes. Even though Claude is a silent key, the many things he did for BVARC continue to benefit our club.



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-amble, 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-ample (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.

Big Ships & Big Signals

Museum Ships Weekend 2011 – Another Successful Operating Event

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

The Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club (BVARC) annual participation in the Museum Ships Weekend Event (<http://www.nj2bb.org/museum/index.html>) sponsored by the Battleship New Jersey Amateur Radio Station on June 4-5, 2011 always provides an excellent opportunity to demonstrate the OSCAR satellites and Amateur Radio. During the weekend event Amateur Radio operators activated Amateur Radio stations on 79 museum ships worldwide, down slightly from the 83 ships that participated last year. Approximately two-thirds of the museum ships were located in the United States; however, museum ships in Australia,



Photo 1: Michael Monsour, AC0TX, and Joe Wileman, AA5OP, in the USS Stewart radio room. (Photograph by Travis Burgess, KSHTB)

Austria, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Russia, Sweden and the United Kingdom also participated. Amateur Radio operators who contacted any fifteen of these ships qualified for a handsome certificate.

During the event the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club (BVARC) operated club station KK5W from Seawolf Park on Pelican Island in Galveston, Texas. Seawolf Park is home to two Second World War vintage museum ships - the destroyer escort USS Stewart (DE-238) and the submarine USS Cavalla



Photo 2: John Cooper, WTSY, working the HF bands from the radio room of the USS Cavalla. (Photograph by Travis Burgess, KSHTB)

(SS-244), nicknamed the "Lucky Lady" by submariners. As a result, a contact with KK5W counted for two ships.

BVARC operated from three locations within Seawolf Park. The radio rooms on the two ships were used for operation on the HF bands using both phone and CW. The radio rooms on the ships contain a considerable amount of vintage radio gear that is no longer operational but serves as a museum display. The Amateur Radio operators brought along their own equipment but did use the long wire antennas that have been restored on both ships. A third operating location with two HF stations was set up in a picnic shelter in the park immediately adjacent to the ships. Because heavy congestion on the

satellite passes was anticipated the decision was made to work the satellite passes using an Alinco DR605 dual-band mobile radio in a vehicle from the parking lot adjacent to the picnic shelter.

The club made approximately 850 radio contacts during the event, and 33 other ships participating in the Museum Ships Weekend event were worked. A total of 37 Amateur Radio operators participated in the Seawolf Park operation.

One pass of SO-67 and two passes each of SO-50 and AO-27 were worked. A total of 41 satellite contacts were made with stations in 19 US states, Cuba and Mexico. Contacts on all three satellites were made with WD9EWK at the Show Low, Arizona hamfest. It

was nice to be able make these contacts with Patrick and to let those listening at the hamfest know that special event stations operate on the satellites.

This was the fourth year that BVARC participated in the Museum Ships Weekend Event, and the first two years KK5W was the only station worldwide in the event to operate on the satellites.



Photo 3: Picnic shelter in the park provided shade for two HF stations and attracted many park visitors providing an opportunity for them to learn about Amateur Radio. (Photograph by Travis Burgess, KSHTB)



Photo 4: Allen Mattis, N5AFV, and Carl Hacker, WC5WM, working an SO-50 pass. (Fisheye lens photograph by Travis Burgess, KSHTB)

This year we were joined on satellites by VE3RCN on the HMCS Haida in Toronto. The HMCS Haida is a Second World War Tribal class destroyer built in England and commissioned into the Royal Canadian Navy in 1943. The operators on the HMCS Haida made 9 satellite contacts and worked 7 US states, Ontario and Cuba. KK5W was not able to make a contact with VE3RCN during the Museum Ships Weekend Event and the goal of making a ship-to-ship satellite contact during the event has eluded us for another year. Perhaps AMSAT members living near some of the museum ships that participate in the event can come forward and volunteer to help to put these ships on the satellites next year.

As in past years, it was very enjoyable and rewarding to participate with the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club (BVARC) in the annual Museum Ships Weekend Event and we hope that other satellite operators will join us next year and participate in the event. 🌐



Photo 5: Petty Officer Kevin Clements, VE3RCN, on the HMCS Haida working an SO-50 pass assisted by Bruce Dinsmore, VE3SNH. (Photograph provided by Petty Officer Kevin Clements, VE3RCN)

2011 Club Officers:

President:

Rick Hiller, W5RH
rhiller@sdicgm.com

Vice President:

Kirk Kendrick, KK2Z
kmkendrick@gmail.com

Corresponding Secretary

Robert Tomlinson
rbtswim@gmail.com

Treasurer:

Arnold Knoche, K5ADA
jakadaok@aol.com

Recording Secretary:

Pete Sauermilch, KD5QPX
kd5qpx@arrl.net

Board Member:

Dywane Jones, KB5YTA
dwayneredhonda@gmail.com

Board Member:

Ross Lawler, W5HFF
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

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>

TARS Hamfest, Texas City, TX – July 9

Doyle Convention Center
2010 5th Avenue North
Texas City, TX 77590
Website: <http://www.tidelands.org>
Talk-In: 147.140+ (PL 167.9)

Austin Summerfest & Texas State Convention August 5

Austin Airport Marriott South
4415 South IH-35, Austin, TX
Sponsor: Austin ARC & Texas VHF-FM Society
Website: <http://www.austinsummerfest.org>
Talk-In: 146.34/.94 (PL 107.2)

HamEXPO 2011 – October 1

Bell County Expo Center
301 Loop 121, Belton, TX 76513
Website: <http://www.beltonhamexpo.org>
Sponsor: Temple Amateur Radio Club
Talk-In: 146.820- (PL 123.0)





Monthly Publication of the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club.
Serving Amateur Radio for Southwest Houston and Fort Bend County
Club Call sign – KK5W
BVARC Website: <http://www.bvarc.org>
Editor: John Chauvin, K5IZO, k5izo@yahoo.com
Production Team: Cameron Mitchell, K5CAM, k5cam@arri.net

Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club (BVARC) was organized in 1977, primarily as an emergency communications group available to assist the communities of Missouri City and Stafford when required. Since that time, **BVARC** has grown and expanded its activities to become the most active amateur radio club in the Southwest Houston and Fort Bend County area. BVARC is a Non-Profit Corporation classified by IRS as 501-(c)-(3).

Today **BVARC** is truly a general interest amateur radio club with an impressive record of public service. The American Radio Relay League (ARRL) has recognized the club's commitment of service with the coveted status of Special Services Club. We are proud of our members who represent some of the finest in amateur radio. Membership is not limited to licensed operators, but is open to anyone with an interest in amateur radio. Club meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the 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 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

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JULY 2011

**BRAZOS VALLEY
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
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SUGAR LAND, TX 77487-2997
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FIRST CLASS POSTAGE

BVARC General Membership Meeting – July 14, Sugar Land Community Center

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