



# BRAZOS VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



AMATEUR RADIO FOR SOUTHWEST HOUSTON AND FORT BEND COUNTY

MARCH 2012

VOLUME 36 ISSUE 3

## BVARC March GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

7:00 PM, Thursday, March 8, 2012

234 Matlage Way, Imperial Park Recreation Center, Sugar Land, Texas

**NOTE: The start time is 7:00PM (NOT the usual 7:30)**



### SKYWARN™ Severe Weather Spotter Training

The March meeting will have a special presentation on SKYWARN™ - a training program sponsored by the Houston-Galveston National Weather Service Office in conjunction with Fort Bend County Office of Emergency Management.

Because the training will take most of the planned meeting time, we will limit the announcements and initial part of the meeting and start the training promptly at 7:15pm.

SKYWARN™ Volunteers are trained to watch the skies during severe weather then relay reports back to the local Emergency Management Office and/or the Houston-Galveston National Weather Service (NWS) Office.

SKYWARN™ Volunteers will learn:

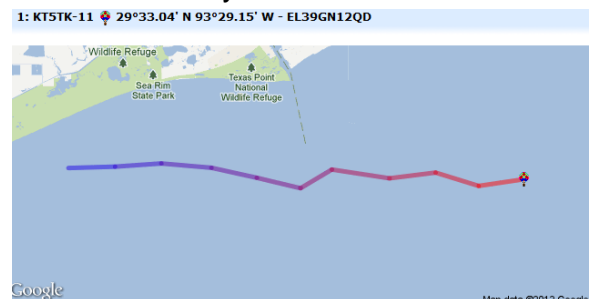
- Basics of thunderstorm development
- Fundamentals of storm structure
- Identifying potential severe weather features
- How to report information
- Basic severe weather safety

### February Meeting Report

BVARC Past President Rick Hiller W5RH presented a great talk "I Have My License...Now What?" for the newly licensed amateur operator that focused on a long list of resources – links to a myriad of articles in QST.

As a great Elmer, Rick gave insight on how to answer: What radio should I buy? What antenna should I use? Should I buy an HT? Can I get on HF?

Before the talk, a long discussion on the BLT-28 "floater" flight by the South Texas Balloon Launch Team. Thomas Krahn KT5TK brought the package that would fly by balloon and explained the components and how to track the balloon on it's "world-wide" journey. Unfortunately, the balloon was lost over the Gulf Of Mexico when it reached a little over 49,000' – VERY cold at that altitude.





# The President's Corner

President's Corner

By Kirk Kendrick – KK2Z

QST...QST...QST...

February was an exciting month for many BVARC members – from a great monthly meeting, to BLT-28 balloon launch, to on-air activities all month long.

If you missed the general membership meeting, Rick W5RH used the last few years of QST to show how to research the answers to many questions that newly licensed amateurs have. The list of articles that Rick highlighted is included in the Technical Articles section of the BVARC webpage:

<http://www.bvarc.org/index.php?page=tech>. Make sure and read not only that article but the others contributed over the years.

Along with several other BVARCers, I spent a lot of the first half of February learning about and helping to plan the BLT-28 “floater” balloon designed to stay aloft as long as possible – until the balloon fails due to UV breakdown....or altitude. Look at the story on BLT-28 and other balloon launches at [www.w5acm.net](http://www.w5acm.net). My role was to notify the FAA of the launch: I started notifications and discussions with FAA 24 hours ahead of time to explain our plan for this balloon to go across the US and across the Atlantic. The main notifications center on 30 minutes before launch through the time the balloon reaches 60,000 feet. The hardest part of the notification process was to call and tell the FAA we had lost tracking on the balloon off the coast of Louisiana....at 49,000 feet...and that I could not predict when or if it would pass through 60,000 feet. The FAA notified pilots and promised to let us know if the balloon was spotted by anyone.

As we tracked BLT-28 on <http://aprs.fi>, a fairly large group of BVARCers met on the 146.94 repeater to talk about the flight and “rag chew” about balloon launches, APRS, and other radio techniques for HOURS. It was a lot of fun just enjoying the camaraderie.

Every week, BVARC hosts several nets that allow you to join the camaraderie:

- Mondays at 8pm CST on 146.94 MHz PL 167.9 is the BVARC Public Service net. Announcements about upcoming club activities and other amateur radio related fun.
- Tuesdays at 7pm CST on 3550 kHz (3.550 MHz) is the “Under 15wpm” CW net – a chance for everyone to try CW on the air – new hams and old welcomed.
- Wednesdays at 7pm CST on 3910 kHz (3.910 MHz) is the BVARC Rag Chew net...you never know who will join or where the discussion takes us!

Get on the Air with BVARC!

73 de Kirk KK2Z





11<sup>th</sup> Annual  
**Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club**  
**GREATER HOUSTON HAMFEST**



Hosting the  
**ARRL South Texas Section Convention**  
**Saturday, March 3, 2012 - 8 am – 1:30 pm**  
 Fort Bend County Fairgrounds, 4200 Highway 36, Rosenberg, Texas

*On-line seller Table selection and Registration*

**THIS YEAR AGAIN:**

- *Raffle -- with high dollar value prizes (separate from Door Prizes)*
- *Equipment test station -- spot check equipment before you buy*
- *Free Tailgating area, with 7AM early seller/buyer access*
- *Special seller parking for easy unloading and table access*

*Speakers --Mike Gruber, W1MG -- ARRL RFI Expert*  
*--Astronaut Lee Morin-KF5DDB-Ham Radio and the ISS*

**RAFFLE: Tickets \$1 each, 6 for \$5**

**GRAND PRIZE**

Flex Radio Systems SDR3000  
 Software Defined HF Transceiver  
 \$1699.00 value



Provided by Flex Radio Systems  
 and BVARC

**SECOND PRIZE**

GRE PSR-800  
 EZ-Scan Digital P25 Scanner  
 \$499.95 value  
 Provided by GRE / Alinco

**THIRD PRIZE**

Icom ID-31A 70cm Sw, D-STAR HT  
 \$399.95 value  
 Provided by  
 Houston Amateur Radio Supply

**FOURTH PRIZE**

Alinco DR-135mKII  
 2M Mobile Rig  
 \$241.95 value  
 Provided by  
 River Oaks Car Stereo

**FIFTH PRIZE**

Alinco DJ-V57T  
 144/440MHz Dual band HT  
 \$149.95 value  
 Provided by GRE / Alinco

**Door Prizes (Every paid admission receives one ticket)**

Prizes drawn every 10-20 minutes with Top Door Prize drawn at end of Hamfest.

For detailed info, pre-registration and table selection, please go to: [www.houstonhamfest.org](http://www.houstonhamfest.org)

**Programs:**

- Training seminars • Information lectures • APRS operation • Satellite operation • DXCC checking • Hands-On Demos

**Displays & Info:**

- AMSAT
- Equipment test station
- Ham License Testing
- RV Camping and Local Lodging
- On-site food -- DX Kid's Café
- Texas QSO Party
- West Gulf Div. QSL Contest
- 10-10 & Houston SHOT Net
- Fox Hunt by SETAC -- Prize \$100--River Oaks Car Stereo
- Tailgating -- Free --with 7AM access by sellers & buyers

**Miscellaneous:**

Admission: \$5 per person - Includes 1 door prize ticket! Children under 14 Free!  
 Tables: All tables - \$10 pre-registration (choose tables on-line in advance)  
 Electricity available to pre-registrants (\$5 total). On-site registration -- electricity as available.  
 Set-up available: Friday 3-7 PM, Saturday 6-8 AM

Contact: Kirk Kendrick, KK2Z, [kk2z@arri.net](mailto:kk2z@arri.net) or Cell: 281-639-5088 [BVARC/ARRL reserves the right to change this information 2/16/2012]

---Talk-in -- 146.94 (minus offset) 167.9 tone---

# Fully Automatic Solid State Linear Amplifiers



SPE EXPERT 1K-FA



SPE EXPERT 2K-FA

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160 thru 6 Meter coverage -- Built-in dual voltage power supply -- Embedded antenna tuner  
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Minutes of 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2012 Board of Directors meeting of the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club:

Kirk Kendrick called the monthly Board of Directors meeting for the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club to order at 7:00 PM on 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2012 at Fudrucker's, 11445 Fountain Lake Drive, Stafford, TX. Attending were: Kirk Kendrick, KK2Z (Pres.); Ross Lawler, W5HFF (V.P.); Bob Tomlinson, N5JSL (Cor. Sec./Treas.); Peter Sauermilch, KD5QPX (Rec. Sec.); Dwayne Jones, KB5YTA (2yr At-Large Dir.); Rick Hiller, W5RH (Past Pres.); David Barber, K5NDB (1yr At-Large Dir.); Eddie Runner, NU5K (Webmaster); Suzanne Runner, KF5GWZ; Cameron Mitchell, K5CAM; John Chauvin, K5IZO (Newsletter Editor); Sharon Tomlinson, KF5HUF; Mike Hardwick, N5VCX; Jerry Muller, KF5EYC.

1. Minutes for the January 2012 meeting were approved as previously distributed by email and appears in the February 2012 newsletter.
2. Treasurer's Report was presented to and approved by the Board.
3. VP Report: Kendrick reported on the GMM programs for next three months. January, Hiller will conduct the "So you're a new ham program". March BVARC will host basic Skywarn (7:00PM-9:30PM) with the FB Office of Emergency Management. April will be a joint meeting with the Texas DX Society, "Ham Radio Cursing".
4. Old Business:
  - 4.1. 2012 Banquet, no outstanding board business.
  - 4.2. Budget discussions tabled until after the Greater Houston Hamfest.
  - 4.3. Committee formed to research the possibilities of BVARC having a permanent facility. Members are Runner, Hardwick, and Chauvin. Their first report due in May.
  - 4.4. Greater Houston Hamfest: Chauvin reported that there will no further organizational meetings. Hiller reported that Houston Amateur Radio has donated a HT.

4.5. Donations: The outstanding business of BVARC donating to the ARRL Spectrum Defense Fund and TXPAC was discussed.

4.5.1. TXPAC is a political entity thus BVARC shall not donate to their cause.

4.5.2. The ARRL Spectrum Defense Fund appears to be a 501(c)3 entity and thus appears eligible for donation but BVARC has been unable to get the ARRL to verify same in writing. Board approved the following three motions.

4.5.2.1. BVARC will not donate until the ARRL responds in writing that donating to the fund will not negatively impact our 501(c)3 status.

4.5.2.2. Corresponding Secretary shall draft a letter to the ARRL stating that BVARC must receive a letter from the ARRL attesting to the fund's 501(c)3 status by 2/29/2012 or BVARC will no longer entertain the motion to donate to that fund.

4.5.2.3. If BVARC decides to go forward with donating to the Spectrum Defense Fund, pending motions above, then the amount to be donated should be the originally proposed \$ 1,000.

4.6. New business: Runner presented web site visit statistics to the board.

5. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM

Submitted by Recording Secretary, Peter Sauermilch, KD5QPX



### **THE BVARC Rag Chew Net**

#### **February check-ins**

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

01/25/12, K5LKJ (NCS), WS5H, W5TKZ, K5NDB, AF5T, N5CPA, AA5OA, N5PDQ (Jasper), K5LJ, K0NM, K5IZO, W5RH, KC5JAR (Katy), KE5OBY, K5LBU, WA5CYI  
(16 Check-Ins)

Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 136, SN = 105, A = 17, K = 2

02/01/12, K5LKJ (NCS), K5CEK, K5CAM, W5TKZ, AF5T, K5IZO/5 (Jasper), WS5H, KC5JAR (M) (Houston), K5NDB, N5CPA, K0NM, K5LBU, K5LJ, N5DTT, K5DLL (Deer Park), W5RH, W5TOM, KK2Z, WB5PNL (Beach City), WA5FMK (R), KE5OBY (T), WB4KTF. ( Check-Ins)

Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 117, SN = 71, A = 3, K = 0

02/08/12, K5LKJ (NCS), WS5H, KC5JAR (Katy), W5TKZ, K5NDB, AA5OA, K5LJ, N5DTT, N5CPA, WA5FMK, K5IZO, W5RH, AF5T, WB5PNL (Beach City), KE5OBY, K0NM, WA5CYI. (17 Check-Ins)

Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 97, SN = 24, A = 10, K = 2

02/15/12, W5RH (NCS), K5LBU, W5TKZ, K5LKJ, K5NDB, N5CPA, WS5H, KE5OBY, K0NM, K5LJ, KC5JAR (Katy), K5IZO, N5DTT, AF5T, WA5CYI, AA5OA. (16 Check-Ins)

Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 107, SN = 64, A = 10, K = 2

02/22/12, K5LKJ (NCS), WS5H, W5TKZ, K5CEK, K5NDB, K5IZO/5 (Jasper), K5LBU, K5DLL (Deer Park), WA5CYI, K5LJ, KE5OBY, K5CAM, AA5OA, W5TOM, KB5SDU (Natchitoches, LA), W5RH, WB5PNL (Beach City), N5CPA,. (18 Check-Ins)

Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 104, SN = 61, A = 8, K = 1

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

Thanks.

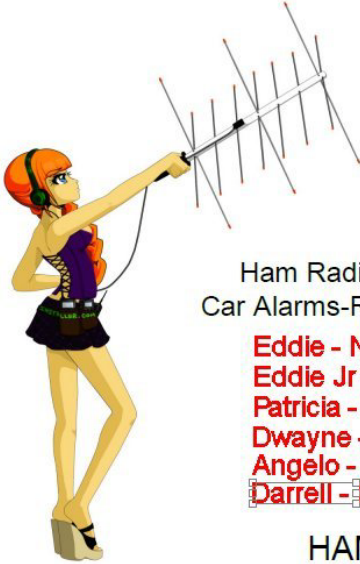
Regards.\_

John C. Whiteman, K5LKJ



# River Oaks Car Stereo

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

Eddie - NU5K  
Eddie Jr - KB5OBB  
Patricia - KE5YYV  
Dwayne - KB5YTA  
Angelo - KF5MJV  
Darrell - KC5JAR

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

Yes, we can install Ham radio in your car!

HAM RADIO IS BACK IN HOUSTON AGAIN!



## 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 new folks with open ears, 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. NCS sends the pre-ambles, then calls for check-ins "QNI?".... and then, after checkins, each station is called "QTT" to invite them to transmit a short greeting or message.

Net Control Station (NCS) is Rick, W5RH, but some nights WS5H, Bill, or others take over, so listen carefully right at 7 PM. Frequency is on 3550 KHz (+/- 3 KHz pending QRM).

Listen to a sample pre-ambles (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.



## AMATEUR RADIO PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

Here are some of the upcoming public service events that need help from amateur radio operators:

April 21<sup>st</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup>, 2012      Sat/Sun      7:00 am      BP MS150 Bike Tour      <http://bpms150.n0xfd.com/>





## Fine Tuning the Feedline -- An Old Antenna Matching Home Remedy

Rick Hiller – W5RH

If you use a matching network (antenna tuner) in your feedline AND there are certain bands, or parts of a band, that you cannot get the SWR (at the network input) to go down to below 1.5:1....try adding 2 to 6 feet of coax to the length of your main feedline (between the tuner and the antenna). If you are using open wire or ladder line, add a few feet of similar type of line. This additional line might just be what is needed to bring the feedline input impedance (Z) into the range that your matching network will handle.

Why? When transmission lines are used in an unmatched situation....(meaning, i.e. the antenna is not 50 ohms, but you are feeding it with 50 ohm coax); the transmission line becomes a transformer. The transmission line will transform your antenna feed Z into some other Z at its input end, based on the feedline “electrical length”. [ Note: Our antennas, no matter who makes them, DO NOT stay at 50 ohms Feed Z over the total useable bandwidth of any band we are on. Antennas will change Feed Z from one end of the band to the other.] Sometimes this transformation will produce a feedline input Z that is out of the matching network’s range. By adding just a few feet of additional feedline, the Z is transformed, possibly, into a Z your matching network with adjust to.

How? Feedlines, like antennas, repeat their impedance characteristics (for antennas, it is resonance) every ½ wavelength. Have you ever seen a Smith Chart? It is set up for 180 degrees (½ wavelength) around the circumference. [For reference--1 wavelength is 360 degrees). During antenna system design, a Smith Chart helps you to figure feedline Z’s at a certain point in the feedline. So, as you move around the Smith Chart (as you move through 1 to 180 degrees) the feedline input Z changes. The extent to which these impedances change is related to 1) the Load (antenna) feed Z at that particular frequency; 2) the Characteristic Impedance of the feedline; 3) the length of the feedline; and 4) the size of the feedline (this particular characteristic “size” has to do with resistive loss in the wire and the dielectric).

A typical application scenario – your modern solid-state transceiver is designed to start reducing power output (folding back) at a higher than 1.5:1 SWR. You are not successful in using your antenna tuner to match your antenna system to the transceiver output Z, as it still is 2.3:1. (2.3:1 is not really a horrible SWR, but it is affecting your power out, so you need to correct it). You put in 3 feet of RG-213 and PRESTO! 1.4:1 is now easily obtainable! You can now work this portion of the band.

Congratulations!.....but not so fast. If you changed the feedline input Z on this band, you surely changed it on the other bands for which this antenna was designed. Time to run through all of the bands and check to see that you can still match them. If you can, then OK, you are finished. But, if you, now, can’t get a match on some of the other bands, it is time to add a little more coax and try all the bands again. At some overall feedline length, you should be able to match all bands and get your full transceiver output.

*Questions or comments to Rick – W5RH [rhiller@sdicgm.com](mailto:rhiller@sdicgm.com)*

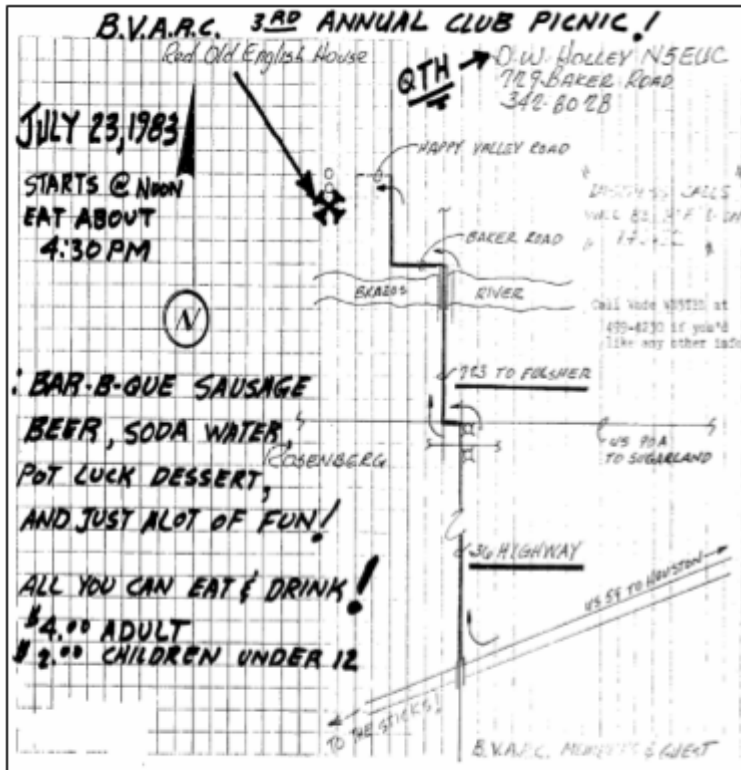


## BVARC Historical Vignettes – BVARC Picnics in the 1980s

Allen Mattis N5AFV, Club Historian

Annual club picnics were important BVARC events in the early days of the club, especially in the 1980s. The first club picnic was held in at Bayland Park near the intersection of Bissonet and Hillcroft, and was organized by Dick Hagerman, WB5SRN. There was no picnic in 1980, and a small park at 10707 Corporate Drive was used for picnics in 1981 and 1982. In 1983 the BVARC picnic shifted into high gear and became a significant club function.

In 1983 the club announced that its 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Club Picnic (actually the 4<sup>th</sup> club picnic) would be held with a change of venue at Doug Holley's home along the Brazos River in Rosenberg. A hand-drawn somewhat elaborate map to the picnic appeared in the club newsletter.



Map to 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Club Picnic  
B-VARC Bulletin, Vol 6, No 7, July, 1983

For eleven of the twelve years between 1983 through 1994 the annual BVARC picnic was held at Doug Holley's home. It was a wonderful event where families brought children, sometimes ham radio stations were set up similar to Field Day, and the picnic always had good food. A special thank you is owed to Steve Gottleib, WA5OEN, for providing photographs taken at one of the early club picnics circa 1983.



Figure 1 – (Left to Right) Doug Holley, KE5SR, Ethel Bolyard, Vic Richard, N5NAS, and Wade Eilers, WN5TEN



Figure 2 - (Standing) Stu Lamkin, WB5IGG, and daughter Susan, (Seated) Beth Lamkin



Figure 3 - Stu and Beth Lamkin enjoying the food at the picnic



## Results of the February 14th 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, February 14, 2012 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  
Robert Tomlinson, N5JSL

Four examination elements were administered during the evening to four applicants. Two new Technician class, one upgrade to General class and one upgrade to Amateur Extra class licenses were attained; with the total number of elements passed being 4. The overall "pass rate" for the evening was 100%.

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

|                     |            |                 |
|---------------------|------------|-----------------|
| Jeff B. Carson      | - {KF5ONT} | - Technician    |
| Anthony P. Marriott | - {AF5BV}  | - Amateur Extra |
| Neil A. Shaver      | - {KF5ONS} | - Technician    |
| Wayne R. Vinson     | - KE5EAB   | - 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 Science & Technology Building for making these excellent classroom facilities available to us for our exams each month.

..... 73 .....x





## BIG AL – BVARC 10-10 CONTEST RESULTS AND REPORT – Nizar (K0NM)

It was a blast. There was so much enthusiasm about the Big Al (N5XZ) challenge that a record number of BVARC members showed up on 10 meters to compete against him. Against such overpowering competition, Big Al had no chance of winning, even with his fantastic score of 800 QSOs during the weekend. He never anticipated so many people from BVARC getting on the air. So, he wants another rematch. But next time he wants to even the odds and do a CW contest. You are ON Big Al.

### THE CONTEST REPORT – THE GOOD AND THE BAD

Band conditions on 10 meters were not the best during the contest. But they were not bad. The good is that we got some sleep at night after the band shut down. The bad is that we did not get very high scores. But, it was a relaxed weekend with nice DX during the daytime. Over 20 BVARC members got involved and had fun working USA and DX stations. Seventeen members reported their score to me. Most of these also sent their logs in to 10-10 web site to count towards SHOT chapter score. DX stations started coming in around 8 am in the morning from the East. I heard Big Al working South African stations way before the band opened for me with my low antenna. An hour later, the Europeans started coming in and the feeding frenzy was on. There were several of us operating from the Houston area all across the band and calling CQ. The big stations running power, with antennas pointed toward Europe and calling CQ, must have ionized the ionosphere with their combined radiated power. I saw several big peaks on my band scope corresponding to Al (N5XZ), Mike (N5MT), Bill (WS5H), Frosty (K5LBU), John (K5IZO) and me (K0NM) calling CQ. Lots of other members joined in to work the stations attracted by the power guys. I heard David (K5NDB), John (K5LKJ), Ron (AE5NO), Rick (W5RH), Ed (NU5K) and many more listed below working DX stations.

During the mid-day hours the band was wide open to USA, Canada and South America. BVARC members could be heard all across the band working DX and USA stations. Several people wanted to know what was up with all these Texans on the 10 meter band. The band usually closed down at around 8 pm with QSOs to Hawaii, New Zeland, Australia and Japan. After that, it was a time to shut down the rigs, let the amps cool off, relax, get a glass of wine, have a nice dinner, chat with the XYL and get a good night’s sleep. It was what I would call, “a civilized contest”. But, most of all, it was a fun contest. Thank you Big Al for getting us all involved.

### THE FINAL SCORE

We had over 20 people from BVARC compete in this contest. Seventeen of them submitted their score and their individual numbers of QSO’s are shown below. Big Al (N5XZ) had 800 Qs. The other BVARC members got a total of 1321 Qs not counting the (KK5W) club call 285 Qs by Bill.

Bill (WS5H) had 285 Qs. Nizar (K0NM) had 248, Frosty (K5LBU) had 218, John (K5IZO) had 143, Jim (N5DTT) had 65, Harold (K5HEM) had 63, David (K5NDB) had 51, Ron (AE5NO) had 42, Gerry (K5EYC) had 37, Rick (W5RH) had 36, Ed (NU5K) had 31, John (K5LKJ) had 29, Norma (KE5NDN) had 28, Dave (AF5T) had 18, John (KK5NU) had 17, and Darryl (KC5JAR) had 10. Pump (WA5CYI) reported 3 Qs after the scores were totaled. N5MT, a non BVARC member but a big 10-10 member, had the next best number of Qs at 441.



## 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:

11/21 - 29 - Dwayne, kb5yta  
11/28 - 28 - Pete, kd5qpx  
12/5 - 25 - Cam, k5cam  
12/12 - 25 - Sid, n5zkd  
12/19 - 30 - Dwayne, kb5yta

12/12 - 25 - Sid, n5zkd  
12/19 - 30 - Dwayne, kb5yta  
1/2 - 24 - Cam, k5cam  
1/9 - 27 - Clint, kf5hdf  
1/16 - 27 - Darrell, kc5jar

1/23 - 33 - Pete, kd5qpx  
1/30 - 30 - Jerry, kf5eyc  
2/6 - 37 - Cam, k5cam  
2/13 - 39 - Clint, kf5hdf  
2/20 - 26 - Dwayne, kb5yta



2012 Club Officers:

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

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

Corresponding Secretary / Treasurer  
Robert Tomlinson, N5JSL  
[rbtswim@gmail.com](mailto:rbtswim@gmail.com)

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

1 Year At-Large Board Member:  
Dywane Jones, KB5YTA  
[dwayneredhonda@gmail.com](mailto:dwayneredhonda@gmail.com)

2 Year At-Large Board Member:  
David Barber, K5NDB  
[d\\_barber@att.net](mailto:d_barber@att.net)

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

Club Happenings:

General Meeting

Second Thursday each month, 7:30 PM  
Imperial Park Recreation Center,  
234 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

Under 15 CW Net

Tuesday night, 7PM, 3.550 MHz



## BVARC EATING SCHEDULE

### SATURDAY MORNING BREAKFAST

59 DINER, 7:00a.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>

### Greater Houston Hamfest – March 3, 2011

Location: Rosenberg, TX

Sponsor: Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club

Website: [www.houstonhamfest.org](http://www.houstonhamfest.org)





Monthly Publication of the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club.  
Serving Amateur Radio for Southwest Houston and Fort Bend County  
Club Call sign – KK5W  
BVARC Website: <http://www.bvarc.org>  
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**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 Imperial Park Recreation Center, 234 Matlage Way.** . General membership dues are \$20.00 per year, with student dues \$10.00 per year, additional family members \$2.00 per member per year and life membership \$200.00.

**BVARC** also administers amateur radio license exams on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Houston Community College's 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)

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

**FIRST CLASS POSTAGE**

General Membership Meeting – March 8, 2012 - **7:00 PM**

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