



BRAZOS VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



AMATEUR RADIO FOR SOUTHWEST HOUSTON AND FORT BEND COUNTY

AUGUST 2012

VOLUME 36 ISSUE 8

BVARC August GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
7:30 PM, Thursday, August 9, 2012
234 Matlage Way, Imperial Park Recreation Center, Sugar Land, Texas

BVARC ANNUAL ICE CREAM SOCIAL

The August Meeting will be the Annual Ice Cream Social. After a short time for announcements (while the ice cream melts), we will break to socialize and enjoy sugary (and non-sugary) treats with your fellow amateur radio enthusiasts. Blue Bell will be the primary treat in all our favorite flavors.

Ice cream, treats and drinks will be provided. However, if you would like to bring some ice cream or other dessert condiments, please contact Rick, W5RH @ (832) 474-3713 or rhiller@sdicgm.com.



July Meeting Report

The July BVARC General Membership meeting featured presentations on BVARC's "To the Field" Events for 2012:

- Greater Houston Hamfest (John K5IZO),
- Museum Ships Weekend (Ron K5HM), and
- Field Day (Kirk KK2Z)

The evening also included three rounds of Ham Radio Trivial Pursuit hosted by Rick W5RH.



BVARC 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-amble, then calls for check-ins "QNI?". After checkins, each station is called with "QTT" to invite them to transmit a short greeting or message. Stations may send at any speed they wish – slower or faster than NCS. NCS will respond at that same speed. Net Control Station (NCS) is Rick, W5RH, but some nights Roy, W5TKZ, takes over, so listen carefully right at 7 PM. Frequency is on 3550 KHz (+/- 3 KHz pending QRM).

Just have a listen or join in, but do get on the air and have some fun with the original digital mode.



Minutes of July 5th, 2012 Board of Directors meeting of the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club:

Ross Lawler called the monthly Board of Directors meeting for the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club to order at 7:02 PM on July 5th, 2012 at Fudrucker's, 11445 Fountain Lake Drive, Stafford, TX. Attending were: 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.); Eddie Runner, NU5K (Webmaster); Cameron Mitchell, K5CAM; John Chauvin, K5IZO (Newsletter Editor); Bill Stone, WS5H; Norma Stone, KE5NDN; Sharon Tomlinson, KF5HUF; Billy Jones Jr., N5EVD; Angel Abbott-Jones, KC5KRV; Mike Hardwick, N5VCX; Ron Litt, K5HM; Jerry Muller, KF5EYC (Safety Officer); and Mark Lawler.

1. Minutes for the June 2012 meeting were approved as previously distributed by email and as appears in the July 2012 newsletter.
 2. Treasurer's Report was presented to and approved by the Board.
 3. Old Business:
 - 3.1. GHH: Current figures show we made money. Lawler opioned that the grand prize is a very big draw for ticket sales. Chauvin suggested that GHH issues wait until the kick-off meeting.
 - 3.2. Ice Cream Social: Sugar Land Parks and Recreation staff has agreed to BVARC having a food event at the Imperial Park meeting site.
 4. New Business:
 - 4.1. General Membership Meeting Schedule:
 - 4.1.1. July: Museum Ships, Trivial Pursuit, Field Day, and GHH Review
 - 4.1.2. August: Ice Cream Social
 - 4.1.3. October: Extended Museum Ships
 - 4.1.4. November: Chili & Elections
 - 4.1.5. December: Home Brew
 - 4.2. QSL Manager: Theresa Williams, KE5MUX, has volunteered to be the new QSL Manager, replacing Bill Stone.
 - 4.3. Fire Extinguishers: Muller, as club safety officer, reported that at Field Day Fire he was informed (by person's name not recorded) that our existing fire extinguishers contain a chemical that will destroy electronics. To replace current extinguishers with an electronics safe type (contain Halon) will cost several hundred dollars. A discussion followed. Lawler decided that topic would be taken off line and reported to board later.
 - 4.4. Mayan Doomsday (12/21/12 - 12/23/12): Litt is planning a special event station, N0D, and web site. He has a QSL card designed. Litt asked the board to authorize BVARCs sponsoring the event. Runner volunteered server space to host web page. Discussion followed as to nature and location of event. Richmond Fire Training Field was discussed. Chauvin question what BVARC has done for the fire training center, given that we are now thinking of an additional event. A board motion was approved that BVARC sponsor the event. Details would be resolved later.
 - 4.5. Balloon Launch: Dwayne informed the board that the next launch is August 18th. He asked that BVARC again financially donate. Discussion followed regarding donations in past years. Tomlinson found check records of 2011 at \$200 and 2010 at \$300. A board motion carried that BVARC give \$300.
 - 4.6. Greater Houston Hamfest (GHH) Tailgaters: Dwayne questioned why tail graters don't pay for space. Chauvin commented that topic should be deferred to kick-off meeting.
 - 4.7. QSL Cards: Stone opioned that BVARC should get a standard KK5W card for new manager. Hiller proposed that new manager be authorized to design and get new KK5W cards. No motions were made.
 - 4.8. QSL Card Postage: Stone commented that there is a QSL kitty of about \$9. He asked if BVARC should or would pay for museum ships card postage. A board motion carried that Stone is authorized to spend up to \$50 on postage to send out cards.
 - 4.9. GHH Location: Chauvin again informed the board that there is a 2013 date conflict at the Fort Bend Fairgrounds between the GHH and another event. He requested authorization to secure the location at the best possible date. Board authorized him to secure a date at the fair gourds.
 - 4.10. Astronomy Day (Oct 20th): Chauvin informed the board that the Museum staff wanted resolution regarding BVARC participation. It is the same date as Jamboree on the air. A board motion carried that BVARC will sponsor an Astronomy Day event and a contingency fund of \$100 will be created.
 5. Meeting adjourned at 08:12 PM
- Submitted by Recording Secretary, Peter Sauermilch, KD5QPX

The President's Corner

By Kirk Kendrick – KK2Z

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

After the crazy June field operations BVARC had, July was definitely quieter...especially with the solar flares that TRULY quieted the bands. Some interesting events are coming our way in August...the second Annual 10-10 Allen N5XZ challenge will be on Aug 3-5. Join the club in the 10-10 Summer QSO Party for SSB operations with a goal for EVERYONE IN THE CLUB COMBINED to have more QSO's on 10m than Allen N5XZ. Last year, the club won...thanks to the points that Allen spotted us! Help us win...and help Allen become the winner with the most first place victories in this contest than anyone else – going for 11!!

The club has a few opportunities for you to help out – if you are a good organizer that is experienced at planning weekly meetings, you can help out by being the BVARC Public Service Net Manager. This person keeps the scripts up to date, makes sure we have volunteers available as net control each week, and helps train new people on operating the Monday Night, 8pm BVARC Public Service Net on the 146.940 (thanks Pump WA5CYI for the use of your repeater!). If interested, please let me or any Board member know!!

The year is half way over, and my antenna collection is unchanged. Not by design...but by some strange circumstances. I had placed some lines in the trees over limbs at about 50-70 feet up....before the leaves came out. The line was hanging in the tree...waiting on me to use it. Workers laying out sidewalks at our house needed a line to mark the outline....and THERE IT WAS!! Oh, well, over the leaves works too...just not as “elegant” to play with the antennas through the year.

And, as I remind you each month, join BVARC on the nets every week!

- 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 BVARC CW net. This is a chance for everyone to try CW on the air – new hams and old welcomed (net control will slow WAY down for the new CW operators).
- 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



BVARC Historical Vignettes – Driftnet Buoys Revisited

Allen Mattis N5AFV, Club Historian

Having worked the offshore Gulf of Mexico as a petroleum geologist for over 25 years it should be no surprise to you that I receive a number of magazines that focus on marine activity. When my November/December 2011 issue of Ocean News and Technology arrived I noticed an article entitled “USCG, NOAA nab drift net violator 2,600 miles offshore.” I immediately recalled that in 1994 I had written two articles for the BVARC newsletter about driftnet buoys that transmit CW signals in amateur radio bands.

Driftnet fishing is a controversial type of fishing where with the help of floating-devices the nets hang vertically from the ocean surface to a depth of 100 feet targeting what marine biologists refer to as “pelagic” species – those species swimming close to the surface of the water. In addition to desirable fish, the nets also entrap and kill “by-catch” such as sharks, dolphins, whales, turtles, sea birds and other marine mammals. Large driftnets are in use worldwide, even though the United Nations passed a resolution in 1992 banning their use in international waters. The United States and many other countries permit the use the driftnets in their territorial waters. The article in Ocean News and Technology related how the USGC Cutter Munro seized a fishing vessel that did not have valid national flagging and was driftnet fishing off the Aleutian Islands.

Fishing vessels set a number of driftnets and move between them to collect the catch. In order to locate the driftnets radio buoys are used. The buoys send slow CW with alpha-numeric identifiers followed by a long dash to allow vessels to directionally locate them. The problem for us is that many of the driftnet buoys transmit in amateur radio bands. The articles I wrote in 1994 discussed how driftnet buoys in the Gulf of Mexico were transmitting in the 160 meter band. Driftnet buoy transmissions on 160 meters in the Gulf of Mexico do not appear to be much of a problem today; however, they are a problem in Australia. John Kirk, VK4TJ, of Queensland, Australia has been documenting them for the past year.

160-Meter Driftnet Buoys Logged by VK4TJ in July 2011

Frequency	ID	Date	Frequency	ID	Date
1.800	2ARM	10-Jul-2011	1.811	4QVS	8-Jul-2011
1.801	3YRZ	4-Jul-2011	1.812	2AFOP	4-Jul-2011
1.804	2AFMN	10-Jul-2011	1.817	4QVZ	8-Jul-2011
1.804	4JBT	1-Jul-2011	1.820	4IKZ	4-Jul-2011
1.807	2AEGH	12-Jul-2011	1.820	2AFQR	12-Jul-2011
1.810	DZ4	8-Jul-2011	1.825	2ABXY	16-Jul-2011

Table 1: 160-Meter Driftnet Buoys Logged by VK4TJ

The driftnet buoys off Australia do not pose a QRM threat to amateur radio operators in Houston; however, it may be a different story for the driftnet buoys currently being heard in European waters. Georg Kehl, DJ7KG, of Meisenheim, Germany has been documenting driftnet buoys in the 10-meter band. In just one day Kehl logged 18 driftnet buoys transmitting in the 10-meter band.

10-Meter Driftnet Buoys Logged by DJ7KG in One Day

Frequency	ID	Date	Frequency	ID	Date
28.031	AI	11-Oct-2011	28.276	II	11-Oct-2011
28.051	R	11-Oct-2011	28.277	A	11-Oct-2011
28.101	A	11-Oct-2011	28.296	U	11-Oct-2011
28.131	BI	11-Oct-2011	28.357	R	11-Oct-2011
28.137	HH	11-Oct-2011	28.357	AI	11-Oct-2011
28.157	BD	11-Oct-2011	28.371	CU	11-Oct-2011
28.181	BM	11-Oct-2011	28.431	BD	11-Oct-2011
28.211	AR	11-Oct-2011	28.432	RI	11-Oct-2011
28.242	PI	11-Oct-2011	28.441	S	11-Oct-2011

Table 2: 10-Meter Driftnet Buoys Logged by DJ7KG

Most driftnet buoys operate with power levels of 100 milliwatts, 1 watt or 10 watts. The buoys are powered by a combination of batteries and solar panels, and usually use a 10-foot loaded whip antenna. Now that the 10-meter band is open at times, amateur radio operators in Houston should be able to copy driftnet buoys.

The slow CW and repeated transmissions coming from driftnet buoys are easy to copy and amateur radio operators new to CW might find listening to the driftnet buoys helpful in improving their ability to copy CW.

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ATTENTION ALL HAMS

The Volunteer groups at [Seawolf Park Cavalla Historical Foundation](#) Vollys and the Cavalla Historical Amateur Radio Society members will hold a meeting at Seawolf Park August 11th 2012. Meeting time 10:30 am. Many BVARC members have expressed interest of the restoration projects in the radio rooms of the Cavalla and Stewart. If interested in attending the meeting and added to that days park gate volly entry list, or more details and get emails on the ship restoration project please email Bill Stone WS5H dragntow@wt.net or call 713-776-1030. We will hold a short meeting in the park area and then go back about our restoration projects. We hope you will join us in helping restore the radio gear. If you have done volly work in the past at Seawolf Park and can not make the meeting please let me know if you wish to be on the email list .

73, Bill WS5H



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:

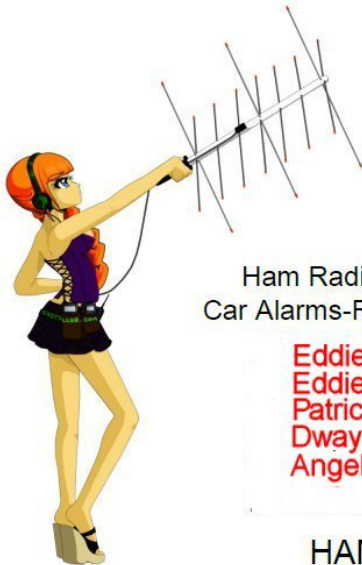
4/9 - 42 - Clint, kf5hdf
 4/16 - 31 - Dwayne, kb5yta
 4/23 - 43 - Pete, kd5qpx
 4/30 - 36 - Pete, kd5qpx
 5/7 - 39 - Cam, k5cam

5/14 - 41 - Bill, ws5h
 5/21 - 31 - Dwayne, kb5yta
 5/28 - 24 - Pete, kd5qpx
 6/4 - 34 - Cam, k5cam
 6/11 - 44 - Clint, kf5hdf

6/18 - 36 - Dwayne, kb5yta
 6/25 - 34 - Cam, k5cam
 7/2 - 42 - Cam, k5cam
 7/9 - 41 - Clint, kf5hdf
 7/16 - 29 - Ron, k5nm

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Angelo - KF5MJV

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Yes, we can install Ham radio in your car!

HAM RADIO IS BACK IN HOUSTON AGAIN!



Results of the July 10th 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, July 10, 2012 at HCC's Scarcella Science & Technology Building here in Stafford.

MEMBERS OF THE VE TEAM:

Dennis Dietrich, W5DDD Larry Jacobson, K5LJ John Moore, KK5NU
George Ontko, KM5VP Robert B. Tomlinson, N5JSL

Seven examination elements were administered during the evening to six applicants. Three new Technician class and three upgrades to General class licenses were attained, with the total number of elements passed being 6. The overall "pass rate" for the evening was 85.7%.

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

Richard S. Arvedson	- {KF5RDW} - Technician
Melanie I. Black	- {K9MIB} - General - Pending
David E. Hoobler, Jr.	- {KF5RDX} - Technician
James C. Mayes	- KC5QDM - General
Hannu K. Rouhiainen	- KF5QXX - General
Kevin B. Thomas	- {KF5RDV} - 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

Hamfest Season

AMSAT Activities at the 2012 Greater Houston Hamfest

by Andy MacAllister, W5ACM, w5acm@swbell.net
and Allen F. Mattis, N5AFV, n5afv@amsat.org

AMSAT was well represented again this year at the Greater Houston Hamfest (GHH) held March 3, 2012 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. Mike Gruber, W1MG, an RF expert from the ARRL Lab, was the keynote speaker.

The GHH had 18,000 square feet of indoor exhibit space, over 120 tables for vendors and individuals, a fox hunt with a \$100 cash prize, an equipment test table, Amateur Radio related presentations and exhibits, VE test sessions, a special event station, and a free tailgate area with early buyer access before the main hall opened.

The AMSAT booth was manned by Andy MacAllister, W5ACM, along with assistance from Allen Mattis, N5AFV, Mike Scarcella, WA5TWT, Charlie Keng, K5ENG, A.C.

Spraggins, W5EZM, and Tom Matthews, K5SAF. AMSAT Director of Contests and Awards, Bruce Paige, KK5DO, was available at the booth to check QSL cards for the ARRL VUCC award, and did a great job with new AMSAT memberships.

Unfortunately there were no OSCAR satellite passes favorable for satellite demonstrations during the hamfest, but the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club (BVARC), organizer of the hamfest, came to the rescue. NASA astronaut Captain Lee Morin, KF5DDB, was a special guest speaker at GHH, and after his talk, Captain Morin spent 45 minutes at the AMSAT booth speaking with attendees, handing out autographed photos and answering questions. His new-found interest in Amateur Radio is focused on moon bounce.

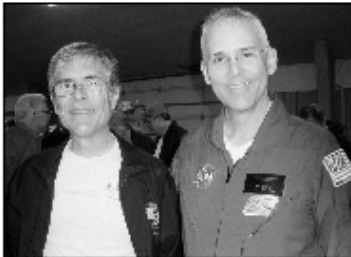
Two talks presented by AMSAT members were well attended. Keynote speaker Mike Gruber, W1MG, from the ARRL was speaking at the same time in another room.

This had some effect on the attendance at the AMSAT talks, but had no effect on the enthusiasm. Allen Mattis, N5AFV, presented a talk entitled "OSCAR Satellites - Feast or Famine", discussing the loss of a number OSCAR satellites in the past two years, yet focusing on upcoming launches of new OSCARs. Andy MacAllister, W5ACM, spoke about BLT-28, the recent South Texas Balloon Launch Team effort to set a world record for a long-duration, long-distance Amateur Radio balloon flight. Although the batteries in the payload froze just above 45,000 feet, the group learned a lot about the methods required to make simple latex weather balloons exceed expectations.

The Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club (BVARC) had five fabulous raffle prizes this year. The main prize was a Flex Radio 3000, software-defined HF transceiver. The Greater Houston Hamfest continues to grow and we are always invited by BVARC to represent AMSAT with free booth space, power and anything else needed. ☺



Astronaut Lee Morin, KF5DDB (r) with Allen Mattis, N5AFV.



Astronaut Lee Morin, KF5DDB (r) with Andy MacAllister, W5ACM.



Allen Mattis, N5AFV, talking about the Vega CubeSat launch.



View of the main hall from the AMSAT booth.



Reprinted with permission of AMSAT.



THE BVARC Rag Chew Net

June check-ins

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

07/04/12, K5LKJ (NCS), K5DLL (Deer Park), N5CPA, W5TKZ, AA5OA, W5RH, K5NDB, K5IZO, AA0ST (Friendswood), K5HTB, WB5VYR, KJ5SS (San Angelo). (12 Check-Ins)

Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 163, SN = 136, A = 9, K = 2

07/11/12, K5LKJ (NCS), K5DLL (Deer Park), K0NM, K5NDB, W5TKZ, N5CPA, K5LJ, N5DTT, W5TOM, AA5OA, K5IZO, K5WRN, K5LBU, W5HFF, WB5PNL (Beach City), N5JSL, AA0ST (Friendswood), N5XZ (R) , WD5DAY (R) , W5RH. (20 Check-Ins)

Solar Cycle 24: SFI =162, SN = 122, A = 10, K = 2

07/18/12, K5LKJ (NCS), W5TKZ, AA5OA, K5DLL (Deer Park), N5DYY, WS5H, K5LJ, K5NDB, N5CPA, W5HFF, WB5PNL (Beach City), WN5A, W5RH, KL7AX, WA5CYI, AA0ST (Friendswood), KJ5SS (San Angelo). (18 Check-Ins)

Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 128, SN = 87, A = 14, K = 2

07/25/12, K5LKJ (NCS), K5CEK, W5HFF, K0NM, K5LJ, K5DLL (Deer Park), N5CPA, W5TKZ, AA5OA, WA5CYI, KE5SR, N5VCX, W5RH, WB5PNL (Beach City), K5NDB, AF5T, KA5MEI (Hockley), N5ASH (El Campo), KL7AX (M)(Katy). (18 Check-Ins)

Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 102, SN = 66, A = 10, K = 1

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

Thanks. Regards._



Common Mode Current on a Feedline – a Practical Lesson

by

Rick Hiller – W5RH

Common mode current on a coaxial cable is that current which runs on the shield. To be specific, it runs on the “outside” of the shield. This common mode current is an extra current occurring on a coax in addition to the normal (desired) internal TEM mode currents. You do remember that RF travels near the surface of a conductor – called the “skin effect”. The conductor “depth” that the RF uses for propagation along the conductor decreases as the frequency goes up. So..... coaxial cable, from an HF RF standpoint, has 3 conductors – 1) the center wire, 2) the inside of the shield and 3) the outside of the shield. Although the 3 conductors can be utilized in a constructive sense (Reference/Google the W5GI Mystery Antenna), most times, the outside of the shield carries a common mode current caused by a feed point imbalance or running the coax thru the antenna radiation ‘near field’ or from a noise source in your house or neighborhood. This destructive common mode current can generate noise in your receiver, make your mic “hot” (voltage wise) and give you bogus SWR meter measurements to name a few things.

These common mode currents caught up with me recently. Below is my story. Fortunately, it has a happy ending.

Recently, I have been having trouble tuning up/loading up on 80 meters....(Note: 40 meters, my main band of operation, was OK with 600 watts out.) I had dropped my power out on the 80 Meter Rag Chew Net to 100 watts, as the amplifier (AL-80B) did not like to be operated on 80 anymore. The situation continued to get worse. Sometimes the amp would sputter and the matching network would spark over, etc. On 20 meters the 12 V transceiver power supply would lock up into a 7.5 volt “funky” state when I put out more than 30 watts on 20 meters through the amplifier. Grounds were checked and all was tight. So, maybe the amplifier, maybe the tuner, but I didn’t know. After multiple discussions on HF with my friend Maurie, VK3CWB, where he also noted some RFI on my audio, we decided that there was probably a common mode antenna current on the coax and/or the coax was breaking down, as it was being used as a tuned feeder on 80 Meters.

If you would like to know what the problem was and the solution applied, visit the BVARC web page and go to the “Tech Articles” page. See—“Common Mode Current on a Feedline – a Practical Lesson”

The full PDF based article including pictures and diagrams is there.

Questions to Rick Hiller – W5RH – rhiller@sdicgm.com or on the phone -- number in the roster.

2012 Club Officers:

President:

Kirk Kendrick, KK2Z
kmkendrick@gmail.com

Vice President:

Ross Lawler, W5HFF
w5hff@yahoo.com

Corresponding Secretary / Treasurer

Robert Tomlinson, N5JSL
rbtswim@gmail.com

Recording Secretary:

Pete Sauermilch, KD5QPX
kd5qpx@arrl.net

1 Year At-Large Board Member:

Dywane Jones, KB5YTA
dwaynerdhonda@gmail.com

2 Year At-Large Board Member:

David Barber, K5NDB
d_barber@att.net

Past President:

Rick Hiller, W5RH
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
Fuddrucker's, 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

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.

OTHER HAM GROUPS:

WEDNESDAYS – WEDNESDAY LUNCH BUNCH

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

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>

10/06/2012 | HamEXPO!, Belton, TX

Temple Amateur Radio Club

<http://www.beltonhamexpo.org>

10/20/2012 | Lufkin Hamfest 2012

Deep East Texas & Nacogdoches ARCs

<http://www.lufkinhamfest.com>

01/12/2013 | 2013 Amateur Radio Fiesta

Schertz, TX (NE of San Antonio

San Antonio Radio Club; <http://w5sc.org>

03/24/2013; Greater Houston Hamfest

Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club

Rosenburg, TX





Monthly Publication of the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club.
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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 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 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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**BRAZOS VALLEY
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
P.O. BOX 2997
SUGAR LAND, TX 77487-2997
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

FIRST CLASS POSTAGE

General Membership Meeting – Ice Cream Social - - 7:30 – August 9, 2012

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