



BRAZOS VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



AMATEUR RADIO FOR SOUTHWEST HOUSTON AND FORT BEND COUNTY

FEBRUARY 2013

VOLUME 37 ISSUE 2

BVARC February General Membership Meeting

7:30 PM, Thursday, February 14, 2013

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

Remote Rig operation via IPAD and Windows using Ham Radio Deluxe and TeamViewer software.

K5PGF will demo/operate a Yaesu FT897 remote (W4DUF station) in Alabama from the meeting room over cell phone wireless Hot Spot. **We will attempt to make 40M contact with KK2Z and W4DUF aboard the Carnival Magic Ham Radio Cruise in the Bahamas. !!

Disclaimer: we reserve the right for Murphy's law to totally/partially disrupt our plans.

Time permitting, W5RH will discuss the use of G5RV antenna.

The call sign G5RV is thrown around in our Ham vernacular like the words kleenex or xerox copy. The G5RV antenna -- some hams love it, some loath it. Find out the ins and outs of the G5RV multi-band antenna system -- the history, how it works, the reviews of empirical use, commercial offerings and the recent mods to better achieve that universal "all band" antenna. This condensed presentation is a preview of the Greater Houston Hamfest talk **The G5RV Antenna -- The Truth, the Whole Truth and nothing but the Truth, so help me Louis Varney** by Rick Hiller -- W5RH.

March & April Meeting agendas:

March - Antenna Feed Lines, Mark Abramson- ABR Industries

Also - K5PGF will share the results and comments of the Meeting program survey taken in January. Thank you for the 22 respondents who provided input.

April - Joint Meeting with The Texas DX Society TDXS in Sugarland. K5HM, Ron Litt, will demonstrate the use of N1MM Logging program and DX Spotting techniques.



President's Corner for Feb 2013 (& BVARC Awards Banquet report)

By Kirk Kendrick -- KK2Z

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

I spent the holidays in Central Texas...in 19 deg weather...with a fire roaring...and a notepad in my lap figuring out where to put my antennas!! Rick W5RH came up to help with the analysis, and together we're working out a "get on the air" phase followed by a "where would you put a tower" phase....for my first HF beam. More about all of that in the months to come...I look forward to input from all the Elmers out there that can help me bypass some of the hard lessons learned.

January is also the annual BVARC awards banquet. This year, it was my privilege to orchestrate a really fun time at the Houston Museum of Natural Science at Sugar Land on January 18th. We were treated to a

great talk on Space Weather by Dr. Patricia Reiff from Rice University. Dr. Pat showed us some AWESOME simulations of what actually is happening to affect our propagation. The Italian dinner by Café Natelie was also outstanding. The president made a small blunder – in the midst of controlling the costs...he (somehow) eliminated dessert from the menu. Shame on him.

The awards part of the banquet started with the presentation of several “president’s choice” awards to John Whiteman K5LKJ – for keeping BVARC on the air as net control of the ragchew network
John Chauvin K5IZO – for editing, publishing, and championing the BVARC Newsletter
Jerry Muller KF5EYC – for keeping field day safe as the BVARC Safety Officer
Ron Litt K5HM – for promoting on the air activities as the BVARC Radio Sport Coordinator
Cameron Mitchell K5CAM – for ceaseless efforts to keep BVARC members informed and “up to date”
Eddie runner NU5K – for ongoing support to BVARC’s web presence
Additionally, several special awards were presented by Nizar Mullani K0NM presented an N0D award, and Bill Stone WS5H presented a couple of Museum Ships awards to:
Ron Litt K5HM – for guiding BVARC and the Ham World through 21 December 2012 to our Post Apocalyptic future – Special Event NØD
Bob Tomlinson N5JSL – for his continued support of Museum Ships Weekend and especially the 2012 support to the new chairman
Darrell Kirk KD5JAR – for being the muscle behind the scenes to erect antennas and put things together for Museum Ships

BVARC awards two top service awards – Loop & Zepp and Order of the Key. This year we had outstanding contributions from two members that helped get BVARC on-the-air on the HF bands, and both were awarded the Loop & Zepp:

Ron Litt K5HM – for his efforts with Museum Ships, Now Zero Days, and never ending support of getting on the air

Matt Tatro K5NGU – for leading BVARC’s Field Day, for leading the effort to get BVARC members their Extra Class licenses, and promoting CW and portable operations

And, finally, the clubs highest honor – The Order of the Key – for outstanding service to BVARC and the amateur radio community was awarded to:

Bill Stone WS5H – for many years of service to BVARC – especially for championing Museum Ships, supporting the CW and Public Service nets, never ending support of 10m operations, and for helping many “get on the air”. Bill’s passion is infectious and gives passion to many ham radio pursuits.

Many kudos to all the winners! Looking forward to 2013!!

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.

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



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:

10/8 - 29 - Cam, k5cam	11/12 - 24 - Clint, kf5hdf	12/17 - 24 - Bill and Norma
10/15 - 30 - Dwayne, kb5yta	11/19- 23 - Dwayne, kb5yta	12/31 - 15 - Terry, k5pgf
10/22 - 25 - Pete, kd5qpx	11/26 - 26 - Pete, kd5qpx	1/7/13 - 30 - Pete, kd5qpx
10/29 - 28 - Bill, ws5h	12/3 - 31 - Cameron, k5cam	1/14 - 31 - Ron, k5hm
11/5 - 35 - Cam, k5cam	12/10 - 20 - Ron, k5hm	1/21 - 24 - Bill, Norma; David, kd7thj

February 14th Meeting Technical Presentation

The G5RV Antenna System – An Analysis

(The truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth; so help me, Louis Varney)

By Rick Hiller – W5RH

Most Hams start out their HF experience wanting to “work all bands”. So, instead of looking at band specific antennas they will usually gyrate towards a single, multi-band antenna to do the work of transferring their RF power into the ether. They will look for a multi-band antenna that is simple (wire), is easy to put up (requires only two trees or end supports), and one that needs very little in the way of special matching (using only the internal tuner in their transceiver) to get that all desired SWR of 1 to 1. From reading the magazine advertisements, or searching the web or asking for advice on the local repeater, they find that the antenna that gets suggested the most is the G5RV.

But just what is the G5RV? How does it work? How well does it work? Is it really an “All Band” antenna? I wanted to know the answer to all of these questions, and more, and to find out why some Hams speak highly of the G5RV and some others dismiss it as a bad dream.

The G5RV multi-band antenna is probably the best known, but least understood, multi-band antenna at the grass roots level in the Amateur Radio community. It started its’ life in the 1958 RSGB (Radio Society of Great Britain) Bulletin in an article by Louis Varney, G5RV. The original G5RV consisted of a 102 foot flat top wire, center fed, with 34 foot long open wire line “matching section”. Initially used as a 3/2 wavelength ‘gain’ antenna on 20 meters, it was also suggested to be a “one size fits most” type of wire antenna. Louis Varney did not have a very large garden (back yard) at his home, so he needed an antenna that would fit within his garden’s dimensions and work all the HF bands.

Many iterations on the original design have been put forth since then. Hams have tweaked the flat top length, varied the open-wire length or changed the characteristic Z of the transmission line in order to make the G5RV play well as that universal “does it all” antenna. Current commercial marketing naming strategies name it the G5RV Classic, the G5RV Original, the Super Sized G5RV, the G5RV Jr. and even the G5RV Co-linear....each covering more bands than the original. An important fact exists which has not been considered when claiming “All Banding”. The fact is that, at the time of the G5RV creation, in the late 1940’s, many of our present day 1 bands did not exist. 60, 30, 17 and 12 meters, for example, all came along after the 80,40,20,15,10 meter based, original G5RV. And....what about 160? Many articles, web sites, etc. scream bloody murder that the G5RV doesn’t work on all of our bands. They are correct, it is NOT a current day “All Band” antenna, in its’ original form. It works well on the originally ‘designed for’ band criteria....or does it?

So what is the performance of the G5RV? What patterns does it produce? How high up should it be? Does it have to be straight? These and other questions will be answers in the full presentation at the 2013 Greater Houston Hamfest at 12 Noon in Class Room 1. **BVARC members can, however, see a cursory overview of my findings at the February 14th BVARC meeting.** Come on out to the February 14th meeting and learn all about the G5RV antenna and see how it can provide you with the multi-band capability that you would like to have at your Ham shack..

A full list of reference material will be provided, as I always do. I will get Eddie to place the summary presentation on the web site Tech Pages after the meeting and I will have him place the full Hamfest presentation on the web site after the Hamfest.

See you at the meeting February 14th!

Rick – W5RH

Radiosport Tips – Part 1

If you are new to Radiosport, there are probably a million questions you have and a million more you don't know about yet. This article was compiled from several sources to give you a start on some obvious things you can do to enhance your enjoyment and skills.

- **Create or Set a goal**

The more time you spend in a contest, the harder it becomes. Why? Well, there is the effort of copying all those signals in the midst of all the contest noise. Sitting in the chair (or standing) operating takes focus and concentration. And, let's face it, operating at 3 AM is tough on anyone.

A goal for contest operation can offer you the "reason for operating" when the operating gets tough. By having a goal, the operating becomes more than just the next contact, it helps sustain you during the contest.

- **Work a "tune up" contest one month before the "real" contest.**

Why? Put on your propagation hat. The sun, turns once a month. So the sunspots that are around at the end of one month will most likely be there at the end of the next month, too. The timing of the band openings, the reach of the signals, the level of absorption, and the strength of the openings — will be very similar to the previous month.

- **Have a plan.**

Contest plans aren't for every contest. But they are a great help for the right contests.

1. **Plan the operating/off time.** Whether you need to take time off because of the contest rules or want to take time off because of a 48-hour contest, having a plan for the contest will tell you when to take off the time.
2. **Plan band changes.** Sometimes we are so caught up in the contest — or are so tired from operating — we forget that other bands are opening.
3. **Planning gives you a comparison to current operating.** All contest plans, someone said, are valid until the first QSO. The idea of a plan is not that it needs to be strictly followed, but gives you a comparison so that you can contrast current operating reality with that of something that makes sense.
4. **A plan gives you two data points for the next contest.** The plan you had and the reality you experienced. From this, you can create a better plan for the next contest.

- **Read the contest rules.**

Almost every time I read the rules I find out something new about the contest that I didn't know. Even big contests like CQ WW or a big ARRL contest — the rules vary. Do you always remember how multipliers are counted? Or how the points are *exactly* constructed. Or where the log is to be submitted. Reviewing the rules before the contest is always a good idea. Weird but good.

- **Test Equipment Before Contest.**

What should you test? :

1. **Each antenna on each band.** Somehow, the SWR always goes up before a contest.
2. **Each rotor.** For some reason, they won't turn the day of a contest.
3. **Each radio can receive.** Make sure the radio can hear signals on the band.
4. **Each radio can transmit.** With an SWR that makes sense.
5. **Each computer.** Make sure the software comes up and can see the radios and rotors.
6. **Each macro.** Make sure your CW/SSB/RTTY/PSK messages work as advertised with your function keys, including transmitting.
7. **Each sound card.** Make sure the levels of the sound card are set correctly and work with the radios.

It is better to find out that the 80-meter vertical doesn't work in the daylight than finding out in the heat of battle when it is dark outside.

- **How well is your station laid out for your comfort and efficiency?.**

This is one of the great questions that can be answered by a contest. Operating a 48-hour contest will tell you how well you've done putting the pieces of your station together to maximize your comfort.

Is your chair right? Height of your table or desk? Keyboard setup for the computer? CW key in the right place? CW key and mouse in the right place? Easy to change antennas? Rotor right for the contest?

Try one contest just to address the ergonomics of your station. Take good notes when you are done about how easy it was to operate your station with the strain of fast contacts over a long period of time. You'll be glad you did.

Continued Next Month . . .



BVARC Volunteer Examination Team - 2012 Summary

During the calendar year 2012 the Brazos Valley (BVARC) Volunteer Examination Team held eleven (11) "Second Tuesday" monthly sessions and was joined by the Houston ECHO/K3FL Volunteer Examination Team at the March Greater Houston Hamfest license examination session for the purpose of obtaining and/or upgrading an Amateur Radio Operators license.

In our eleven monthly sessions 64 applicants were given the opportunity to take a total of 67 examination elements, successfully passing 55 of them, for a 'pass rate' of 78.2%.

With one of our monthly session having no applicants, as a result of the teams efforts, there were 20 new Technician Class licenses attained, 15 new and/or upgrades to General Class, and 15 Amateur Extra Class for an overall total of 55.

The March Greater Houston Hamfest saw 25 applicants taking a total of 30 examination elements, successfully passing 20 of them, for a 'pass rate' of 66.67%. At this event alone there were 3 new Technician Class licenses attained, 11 new and/or upgrades to General Class, and 3 Amateur Extra Class for a total of 17.

John Moore, KK5NU
VE Liaison for the
BVARC VE Examination Team



RadioSport Events of Note for February 2013

Kickoff the year with the: 10-10 International Winter Contest 0001Z Feb 2 – 2359Z Feb 3
<http://www.ten-ten.org/Forms/QSOPartyRules.pdf>

Miss the good old days? Here they are, at least briefly.
Antique Wireless Association Amplitude Modulation QSO Party.
2300Z Feb 9 – 2300Z Feb 10 AM only. No habla SSB
http://www.antiquewireless.org/pdf/AWA_2012-2013_Event_Schedule.pdf

If RTTY is your thing check into one of the biggest RTTY contests of the year:
CQ World Wide RTTY WPX Contest 0000Z Feb 9 – 2400Z Feb 10 <http://www.cqwxrtty.com/rules.htm>

State QSO Parties:
February is the start of the annual State QSO Party season. There are four this month. These are great ways to develop your contesting skills. Its also an opportunity to fill out your Worked All States or 5 Band WAS list, if needed. Visit the link to get the rules.

QSO Parties are usually short time events and generally low key, so jump in and try it!

Vermont QSO Party 0000Z Feb 2- 2400Z Feb 3
<http://www.ranv.org/vtqso.html>
Minnesota QSO Party 1400Z – 2400Z Feb 2 http://www.w0aa.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=8&Itemid=7
Delaware QSO Party 1700Z Feb 2 – 0100Z Feb 4 <http://www.fsarc.org/qsoparty/qsoshome.htm>
New Hampshire QSO Party 1600z Feb 9 – 2200Z Feb 10
http://www.w1wqm.org/nhqso/NEW_HAMPSHIRE_QSO_PARTY_RULES.pdf

Special Events you don't want to miss

W5B - 02/01/2013 54th Anniversary of the Death of Buddy Holly!!!
18.150 14.260 7.260 3.860. QSL.
K3HWJ – Feb 2, 1400Z-2100Z, Groundhog Day 14.330 7.138 3.845
W5D - Feb 22 to Feb 26 1800X – 1800Z Grid Square DL89 Activation, Big Bend National Park 50.290 50.170. QSL

Most of all, have fun. That's an order!

Reprting from the Dark Side
Ron, K5HM

BVARC Gets Mention in AMSAT 2012 Field Day Results

by Allen Mattis N5AFV

The November/December issue of the AMSAT Journal ran a 3-page article written by our own Bruce Paige, KK5DO, which was entitled "AMSAT 2012 Field Day Results" and BVARC was prominently mentioned.

The article stated 'At the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club, KK5W, they had their satellite antennas mounted on a trailer. Take a look at Kirk, KK2Z, setting them up (photo 3).'



Photo 3: (left) The Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club's satellite trailer. Kirk, KK2Z setting up.

Even though BVARC only placed 15th out of 19 entries it is very nice to see our club recognized in an international publication.

Meet One of Our New Satellite Operators

By Allen Mattis, N5AFV

On August 28, 2012, Allen Mattis, N5AFV, an AMSAT Area Coordinator in Houston, had a satellite contact with Michael Mustachia, KF5PHA, on AO-27. Allen later learned that Michael lived in Houston and that it was Michael's first satellite contact. Michael was using an HT with an Arrow antenna when he made his first satellite contact. Michael, who is 73 years old, had only held his amateur radio license for four months when he made his first satellite contact. What is even more impressive is that Michael did not have a satellite Elmer helping him and on his first satellite pass he made three contacts.

Even though Allen and Michael are both members of the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club (BVARC), the largest amateur radio club in the Houston metropolitan area with over 200 members, they did not know each other. That changed at BVARC's September meeting when Allen presented Michael with AMSAT's Satellite Communicators' Club certificate. Thank you to John Papay, K8YSE, and Bruce Paige, KK5DO, AMSAT Director of Contests and Awards, for their assistance in recognizing Michael's accomplishment. 🌐



Michael Mustachia, KF5PHA (left), receiving AMSAT Satellite Communicators' Club certificate from Allen Mattis, N5AFV, AMSAT Area Coordinator (Photograph by Travis Burgess, K5HTB)



**Results of the January 8th
BVARC Amateur License Examination Session
by: John Moore, KK5NU**

B-VARC sponsored and administered the ARRL's Amateur Radio License Examination session that was held on Tuesday, January 8, 2013 at HCC's Scarcella Science & Technology Building here in Stafford.

MEMBERS OF THE VE TEAM:

Dennis Dietrich, W5DDD
John Moore, KK5NU

Larry Jacobson, K5LJ
George Ontko, KM5VP

Two examination elements were administered during the evening to a sole applicant. There were no elements passed. The overall "pass rate" for the evening was 0%.

There are no results to post.

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



Greater Houston Hamfest, March 23, 2013

We are less than 2 months to this year's Hamfest. It will be larger than ever (almost 200 tables), the usual great speakers and many many activities, demos, etc.

The on-line registration and table selection is up and running. BVARC is encouraging early registration by offering admissions for \$6 until March 9 and including 2 raffle tickets and entry via the "no cash" VIP expedited entrance.. After that time, and at-the-door, admission is \$10 and includes 1 raffle ticket.

Go to the website, www.houstonhamfest.org to get all the details.



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Minutes of January 3, 2013 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 January 3, 2013 at Fuddruckers, 11445 Fountain Lake Drive, Stafford, TX. Attending were Kirk Kendrick, KK2Z (Pres.); Bob Tomlinson, N5JSL (Cor. Sec./Treas.); Peter Sauermilch, KD5QPX (Rec. Sec.); Rick Hiller, W5RH (Past Pres.); Terry Leatherland, K5PGF; David Barber, K5NDB (1yr At-Large Dir.); Cameron Mitchell, K5CAM; John Chauvin, K5IZO (Newsletter Editor); Bill Stone, WS5H; Norma Stone, KE5NDN; Sharon Tomlinson, KF5HUF; Charles Frost, K5LBU; Mike Hardwick, N5VCX; Michael Monsour, ACOTX; Ron Litt, K5HM (Radio Sport); Jerry Muller, KF5EYC; and Theresa Williams, KE5MUX (QSL Mgr.)

1. Minutes for the December 2012 meeting were approved as previously distributed by email and appears in the December 2012 newsletter.
2. Treasurer's Report was presented to and accepted by the Board.
3. VP Report (Kendrick):
 - 3.1. January Meeting: 1/18/13, event starts at 6PM, eat at 7, must be out by 9:30, have 4 hour rental.
 - 3.2. February Meeting: How to automate your shack, Alabama shack controlled by iPad; plus G5RV presentation.
 - 3.3. March Meeting: ABR Industries, Mark Abramson
4. Radio Sport (Litt):
 - 4.1. N0D: 2800+ contacts
 - 4.2. NA QSO Party: January 12th CW segment, January 19th Sideband segment.
 - 4.3. PSK Fest: This weekend
5. Old Business:
 - 5.1. Hamfest (Chauvin): March 23rd, now is 2-1/2 months away. Next meeting 3rd Thursday of month at Fuddruckers. Two vendors have provided donations for prizes. Grand Prize, I-Com 7000 w/Auto tuner and separation kit.
 - 5.2. Hamfest (Kendrick): Google search leads people to previous years events and they can't register. Table sales about last years. So far no vendors have complained over table pricing increase.
 - 5.3. Hamfest (Tomlinson): Wants board approval for a credit card reader but doesn't know cost of apparatus. Will be approved when information is available.
 - 5.4. Permanent Home (Chauvin): No action to date. Chauvin sees that time will become available later this month.
6. New Business:
 - 6.1. Awards (Kendrick): There will be an open discussion followed by a closed board meeting.
 - 6.1.1. Open Meeting:
 - 6.1.1.1. There are two candidates for the Loop and Zepp. Kendrick is proposing that there be two awards this year. Discussion to be continued in closed meeting.
 - 6.1.1.2. Kendrick proposed that several one-off recognitions for members beyond the usual awards.
 - 6.1.1.3. Board approved motion that Kendrick can spend up to \$500 for awards for the 2013 banquet.
 - 6.1.2. Closed Meeting: Discussion among board members regarding awards were not recorded.
 - 6.2. Banquet: We are coming to the point where we need to have to have numbers to the caterer.
 - 6.3. Expiring Membership (Muller): Proposed sending an email with newsletter to those who have expired membership as a method to keep them from disappearing. Chauvin noted that this starts a discussion that has taken place several times over the years. Discussion stopped without resolution.
 - 6.4. Net Control Manager (Leatherland): Jones has resigned as the 3rd Monday Net Control Operator. Leatherland understood that he had volunteered as the 5th Monday NCO, not as net manager. Muller volunteered to be the net manager as long as he is not he is does not have to pick-up the net when the scheduled control operator was unavailable. Stone volunteered to be 3rd Monday for 2 months and will find his own replacement.
7. Meeting adjourned at 7:58 PM

Submitted by Recording Secretary, Peter Sauermilch, KD5QPX



BVARC Historical Vignettes – Sharpstown Mother's Day Event & ARRL National Traffic System Allen Mattis N5AFV, Club Historian

Last month's Historical Vignette discussed the current status of the ARRL National Traffic System. From 1982-88, BVARC's very successful Sharpstown Mall Mother's Day Event used the National Traffic System to help the public send greetings to their mothers on Mother's Day. The event was usually scheduled a week or two prior to Mother's Day in order to allow sufficient time for delivery of the messages. Club members in Sharpstown Mall forwarded the messages to the Houston Traffic Net who in turn put them into the national traffic system. The club operated from tables set up in the center of the mall near one of the major stairways which put the tables in an area of heavy traffic

The first year, 1982, only 64 pieces of formal traffic were handled. The club learned quickly and in 1983 a total of 344 messages were generated. That year a total of 169 messages were sent from the mall by 2-meters, and 55 messages were sent from the mall by HF. An additional 120 messages were sent by BVARC participants from their home stations after the display at Sharpstown Mall closed. These messages went to 40 different states and 4 foreign

THE BVARC Rag Chew Net January check-ins

01/02/13, K5LKJ (NCS), K5LJ, AA5OA, N5FNA (Deer Park), AF5T, W5TKZ, K0NM, N5DTT (Bellaire), N5ASH (El Campo), W5TOM, KE5OBY, N5CPA, AA0ST (Dickenson), WN5A, K5NDB, KC5JAR (Katy), WS5H, K7DW (Billings, MT), K5IZO, W5HFF, KL7AX (Katy), K5WRN, KF5PHA, KA5MEI (Hockley), N5GDM (Ridgeland, MS), W5RH, WB5VYR. (27 Check-Ins) Solar Cycle 24: SFI =118, SN = 99, A = 1, K = 1

01/09/13, K5LKJ (NCS), AF5T, WS5H, W5TKZ, AE5YY, N5FNA (Deer Park), WN5A, K5LBU, K5LJ, KE5OBY, N5CPA, W5TOM, W5HFF, K0NM, K5NDB, KF5PHA, N5DTT (Bellaire), W5RH, WB5VYR. 19 Check-Ins) Solar Cycle 24: SFI =169, SN = 144, A = 3, K = 1

01/16/13, W5RH (NCS), WA5CYI, KE5OBY, W5HFF, KC5JAR (Katy), AF5T, K5LJ, N5CPA, K5WRN, WS5H, W5TKZ, N5FNA (Deer Park), K5LKJ (T), K5NDB, AA5OA, KD5CDM, N5GDM (Ridgeland, MS), K0NM, AA0ST (Dickenson), AE5YY, N5DTT (Bellaire), KF5PHA. (22 Check-Ins) Solar Cycle 24: Data not collected.

01/23/13, K5LKJ (NCS), WS5H, KC5JAR (Katy), W5TOM, K5LBU, AF5T, KL7AX (Katy), K5LJ, N5CPA, N5FNA (Deer Park), WN5A, AA0ST (Dickenson), W5TKZ, K5IZO, KD5CNC (Warsaw, MO), K5NDB, KF5PHA, K5WRN, AA5OA, N5ASH (El Campo), W5RH, WA5CYI, KE5OBY, W5HFF. (24 Check-Ins) Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 105, SN = 53, A = 1, K = 0

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

Come join us each Wednesday. Regards.



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2013 Club Officers:

President:
Kirk Kendrick, KK2Z
kmkendrick@gmail.com

Vice President:
Terry Leatherland, W5PGF
k5pgf@yahoo.com

Corresponding Secretary / Treasurer
Robert Tomlinson, N5JSL
rbtswim@gmail.com

Recording Secretary:
Pete Sauermilch, KD5QPX
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2 Year At-Large Board Member A:
Dywane Jones, KB5YTA
dwayneredhonda@gmail.com

2 Year At-Large Board Member B:
Ron Litt, K5HM
k5hm.ron@gmail.com

1 Year at Large Board Member
Travis Burgess, K5THB
travburg1@sbcglobal.net

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

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>

02/02/2013 | KARS Swap Meet

at ABR Industries
8561 A Rayson Rd; Houston, TX 77080
From 9:30 AM to about noon.
EVERYONE IS WELCOME! This will be a 'tail gate' session outdoors.

02/23/2013 | Orange Hamfest 2013

VFW Post Hall #2775
5303 North 16th Street Highway 87 North, Orange, TX 77630
Website: <http://www.qsl.net/w5nd/>
Sponsor: Orange ARC & Jefferson County ARC
Talk-In: 147.180 +600 (PL off)

03/16/2013 | Williamson County ARC's Hamfest

San Gabriel Park Community Center
445 East Morrow Street, Georgetown, TX 78626
Sponsor: Williamson County Amateur Radio Club
Website: <http://wcarc.com>
Talk-In: 146.64 (PL 162.2)

03/23/2013 | South Texas Section Convention

(Greater Houston Hamfest)
Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club
Fort Bend County Fairgrounds,
4200 Highway 36, Rosenberg, TX 77471
Website: <http://www.houstonhamfest.org/>
Talk-In: 146.940 minus offset (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
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 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 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

BVARC General Membership Meeting – Thursday, Feb. 14

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