



# BRAZOS VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



AMATEUR RADIO FOR SOUTHWEST HOUSTON AND FORT BEND COUNTY

MAY 2013

VOLUME 37 ISSUE 5

## BVARC May General Membership Meeting

7:30 PM, Thursday, May 9, 2013

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

The May June and July summer meetings will be focused on the summer radio sport events. Museum Ships Weekend, and Field Day.

On May 9th, the agenda is:

- Normal business Opening remarks, KK2Z President
- Report on the success and thank yous for the huge volunteer effort for the Greatr Houston Hamfest, John K5IZO Hamfest Chairperson
- Matt Tatro, K5NGU will outline the next volunteer effort and logistics for the June 22nd Field Day Event.
- Museum Ships Weekend, outline of the upcoming Museum Ships Weekend event May 31-June 2. K5HM Ron Litt and others

Note: This same evening, there will be a Hamfest debriefing meeting. See paragraph below..



### April Meeting Report

This article is not available as the newsletter goes to press.

Very briefly, this meeting was the annual combined meeting of BVARC and TDXS. The featured speakers were Ron Litt on logging software and John Stratton, from ARRL, on the TX Ham PAC



### HAMFEST DEBRIEFING

To those that submitted some feedback to the Hamfest, please accept our thanks. However we must have an “eyeball QSO” in order to exchange observations and to trigger other recollections. Thus we will meet before the May General Membership Meeting, May 9, at the Lone Star Grill, at 6PM. It is located about ½ Mi. North of US 90A, on the east side. Arrive at 6 to order (Optional) and we will begin discussions at 6:15 or 6:20.



## President's Corner for May 2013

By Kirk Kendrick – KK2Z

### QST...QST...QST...

Unfortunately, April is the end of the cooler Houston temperatures....with temperatures edging into the 90's as we move to May. While it's hard to do antenna work in the cold, it's even harder in 100 degree plus weather of July and August. The reflector is full of activity by club members discussing their new antennas (and repairs) that are emerging.

For me, April was the beginning of updates to our place in the hill country. I'm spending lots of time on EVERYTHING...with a little left for Ham Radio. I have all the parts up there to erect a couple of HF wire antennas, and a stack of the military surplus mast poles to support the "temporary" antennas. I suspect, I'll be using my temporary antennas for a year or two while we finish the more critical changes to the house...and building of a "barn". With a few acres and no HOA, I'm in better shape than most for antenna structures. And, there will be plenty of trees between the house and my operating position to shield the tower(s) from the XYL and visitors.

April is also the beginning of planning for Field Day and Museum Ships Weekend. Ron K5HM is looking for volunteers to help with Museum Ships, and Matt K5NGU is looking for help to fill the many positions for Field Day. Join us at the May and June general membership meetings where we will spend part of each meeting on the planning and preparing for the "to the field" events.

Have you been to the field lately? that is, operating away from your home QTH? It's a whole new world of fun (and challenges) that will improve your emergency preparedness for operating under various conditions. TRY IT! You'll like it!!

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:

1/14 - 31 - Ron, k5hm	2/18 - 31- Bill and Norma, ke5ndn	3/25 - 32 - Cam, k5cam
1/21 - 24 - Bill, Norma; David, kd7thj	2/25 - 37 - Pete, kd5qpx	4/1 - 39 - Cam, k5cam
1/28 - 27 - Cameron, k5cam	3/4 - 35 - Cam, k5cam	4/8 - 32 - Terry, k5pgf
2/5 - 33 - Cameron, k5cam	3/11 - 35 - Louis, w5dpt	4/15 - 28 - Ron, k5hm
2/11 - 33 - Ron, k5hm	3/18 - 34 - Bill, ws5h & Norma, ke5ndn	4/22 - 28 - Pete, kd5qpx



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## **Results of the April 9th 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, April 9, 2013 at HCC's Scarcella Science & Technology Building here in Stafford.

### **MEMBERS OF THE VE TEAM:**

Jeffrey Fussell, KD5VGE	Larry Jacobson, K5LJ
John Moore, KK5NU	George Ontko, KM5VP
Marie Schaer, KD5UJT	Robert B. Tomlinson, N5JSL

Four examination elements were administered during the evening to three applicants. One new Technician, one new General and one upgrade to General class license 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:

Chuck W. Hale	- {KF5UXP}	- General
John R. Moore	- KE5KVR	- General
Earl K. San Miguel	- {KF5UXO}	- 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 ....

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## THE BVARC Rag Chew Net April Check-ins

03/27/13, K5LKJ (NCS), W5TKZ, AA5OA, N5CPA, K5LJ, KE5OBY, WA5CYI, WS5H, AF5T, W5HFF, WN5A, K5NDB, K5WRN, KF5OXF (Needville), N5JSL, W5RH, AA0ST (Dickenson), KE5HDF. (18 Check-Ins)  
 Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 92, SN = 41, A = 3, K = 4

04/03/13, K5LKJ (NCS), WS5H, W5TKZ, AA5OA, AF5T, AA0ST (Dickenson), WA5CYI, WN5A, W5HFF, N5CPA, KE5OBY, K5LJ, K5IZO, K5WRN, K5NDB, W5TOM, K0NM, KF5PHA, W5RH, KF5EYX, K5CEK (T), N5FNA (Pearland) (T), KC5JAR (Katy)(T). (23 Check-Ins)  
 Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 122, SN = 103, A = 4, K = 1

04/10/13, W5TKZ (NCS), KC5JAR (Katy), AA5OA, W5HFF, WA5CYI, KD5CDM, W5RH, AA0ST (Dickenson), AF5T, K5IZO, K5LJ, N5CPA, K5LKJ (T), K5NDB, WD5CQO (Needville), K0NM, WS5H, KE5OBY (T), KF5PHA, KJ5SF (Searcy, AR). (20 Check-Ins)  
 Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 148, SN = 163, A = 5, K = 1

04/17/13, W5RH (NCS), W5TKZ, AB5IP (Yorktown), K5LJ, KE5OBY (R), WS5H, N5DTT, K5IZO, W5HFF, K5NDB, N5CPA, K0NM, AF5T, KF5PHA. (14 Check-Ins)  
 Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 108, SN = 89, A = 3, K = 1

04/24/13, K5LKJ (NCS), W5TKZ, WS5H, AF5T, WA5CYI, K5LJ, AA5OA, N5DTT, N5CPA, KJ5SS (San Angelo), K5NDB, W5TOM, K5TSJ, W5RH, KF5PHA, KF5HSH, KC5JAR. (17 Check-Ins)  
 Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 115, SN = 95, A = 19, K = 3

(M) = mobile (P) = Portable (R) = Relay (T) = telephone check-in  
 Come join us each Wednesday. Regards. John K5LKJ

## Radioport Tips – Part 3

This is the final installment of Radioport Tips. If you missed any of the previous articles you can look them up in past issues of the BVARC Newsletter or drop me an e-mail and I will be glad to send you the entire series.

- **Learn a Single Band**

Many, if not most, contests operate on a 48-hour clock. So you get two full days of activity, two cycles to learn, and two opportunities to see how things work. This is a perfect environment for learning how a single band works for propagation.

A band operates differently over the course of a day and night; the full 24-hours is rarely used by an amateur radio operator to learn about how a band operates.

Normally in a contest, we'd rarely check all the paths because we're too busy running on the hot band. But using the contest as an activity booster in a 48-hour time frame allows the ham operator to learn about a single band in a short period of time.

If you're looking to improve your understanding of a band's propagation, enter a contest in the single band category. You'll learn about your band in a hurry.

- **Do an After Action Review.**

**What was expected to happen?** This is where the importance of some level of goals for a contest is needed. Having an [objective for the contest](#) is the basis of knowing what was expected.

**What actually occurred?** At the end of the contest, where did we end up in comparison to the goals we had for this particular contest?

**What went well, and why?** Here we analyze the events of the contest to figure out what went well and why.

**What can be improved, and how?** Here we try and figure out what needs to be better next time. Perhaps it wasn't testing the antennas before the contest, not reading the contest rules beforehand or not getting enough sleep. Whatever it was, this is the place to note the areas of improvement.

- **Learn from contesting pros.**

Contesting pros are all over the place; on the air, quoted in print, and self-revealing in their write ups about the contest. Yet, many of us ignore the lessons being taught.

One of the best ways of learning from a contesting pro is listening to that person running during a contest or working a pileup for that new multiplier.

Another way is to learn how a station should be set up is by examining the pictures that shows the placement of the hardware, computer, and logging windows used by the contesting pro.

Subscribe to the ARRL National Contest Journal ([www.arrl.org/ncj](http://www.arrl.org/ncj)) and read it. There are many tips of the trade revealed there. A number of the top contesting clubs have websites with extensive material on contesting available for free. Here are a few:

Yankee Clipper Contest Club [www.yccc.org](http://www.yccc.org)

Central Texas DX and Contest Club [www.ctdxcc.org](http://www.ctdxcc.org)

DFW Contest Group [www.dfwcontest.com](http://www.dfwcontest.com)

- **Leverage your strengths.**

One of the truisms in corporate life is to "leverage your strengths" so as to better your performance. Too often, we try and be all things to the contest world and stretch ourselves too thin. You may be great at CW and not as good at SSB.

Many of us ignore the reality of our equipment and geography. Instead of trying to be number one in the world in DX contests when we have a dipole and a hundred watts, we should focus our efforts on contests where a dipole and a hundred watts would give us the best advantage.

- **Go on a contesting DXpedition.**

You don't have to leave the country to go on a "DXpedition." This year I went down to Mustang Island State Park and operated in a contest. We also activated the island as NA-092 for IOTA credit.

There are some good reasons to go to that relatively rare location one for a contest:

**The other end of pileups.** Yes, they ARE different on the other end from where you've been calling for most of your ham radio career. How to handle them is a skill you can quickly learn.

**Speed of operation.** Because you are rarer in the contest, the activity stays up longer and operates faster. If you are familiar with "speed" in sports, then you'll be able to relate that DXpeditions up your speed game.

**Logistics.** Picking up everything and going somewhere to operate provides a completely new set of challenges. Going through the logistics experience helps you understand what is important for operating — helping you set priorities for your own station back home.

**Motivation for the contest.** You made the trip. You are more likely to be committed to the contest then if you were surrounded by all of the comfort — and distractions of home.

- **Practice CW before contests.**

People are often amazed how fast the CW was for the stations doing the running. By the end of the contest, no matter what, I was also much faster at my CW speeds then I was before the contest started.

So start practicing CW before the contest, just to get into the groove of the dits and dahs. Get a feel for the wall of CW that starts a contest.

- **Participate on a contesting team.**

Some contests is having a "team" category. The idea is that a group of people can get together and form a contesting "team" and have each of their scores contribute to an overall team score for the contest.

This is different from a club score. The team size is usually smaller than the entire club. Each operator is operating as a single operator during the contest but the overall score goes to a team. The advantages of a team are pretty interesting:

- **Your commitment to the contest increases.** Because you are part of a team, you will spend more time in the contest.
- **Your competitive nature will increase the score.** Who wants to have the lowest score on the team?
- **You will focus more on the score.** Capture those elusive multipliers. Look for weird openings during the contest. Really up your contesting game.
- **Have more fun.** Teams often will instant message back and forth on how they are doing in the contest, keeping up the interest and the fun.

- **Find the joy in contesting.**

It all comes down to joy. Contesting is exceptionally challenging. Whether entered competitively or simply as an afternoon break on a Sunday, are demanding. Equipment must work the way it was designed. Computers need to have all of their interfaces working. The body need to be in shape for the time we will spend contesting. And your head needs to be in the contest.

The great thing for me about contesting is this ability to let the rest of the trials and tribulations of the world fall away for the duration of the contest. The contest, because of the focus on the operating, becomes the "flow" experience where time melts away.

So my final contesting tip is simple: find your joy in contesting.

Reporting from The Dark Side  
Ron, K5HM

# Visiting with the Elecraft K3 HF Transceiver – Part 1

## By Rick Hiller – W5RH



I recently had the opportunity to have an Elecraft K3 HF transceiver visit my shack for about 6 weeks. A friend of mine bought it and he wanted me to check it out before I sent it on the long trip across the big pond to his house. What an excellent opportunity for lucky ol' me.

Before I got the rig, Allen, N5XZ, had turned me onto Fred Cady's book, "The Elecraft K3 – Design, Configuration and Operation". I also had downloaded the "K3 User Manual". Note: I had never owned any Elecraft radios or devices, although I have read about them and friends have brought them out to field events. So, I had exposure, but not intimacy. Essentially starting for scratch, my goal was to learn the ins and outs of this K3 radio transceiver.

I ventured in with a bit of trepidation, and rightly so. This radio has a beast of a user interface. You can adjust everything in this radio except the size of the box. The K3 has over 100 menu items on 3 layers of menus along with many multi-purpose buttons and knobs. I am glad I knew what a shortwave radio and HF transceiver was and how it worked. Knowing this made the process easier, but just think if this was your first ever HF radio. Wow, simultaneously understanding what the function is, how it influences reception/transmission and how best to adjust it would be confusion at its' finest. The largest learning curve is understanding the controls and how they work. It is a typical modern day radio with buttons and knobs that you push momentarily for one function, push and hold for another function and push and hold longer for yet another function. Each control had multiple functions. If you do not have certain options, certain buttons do not function. Therefore, you also have to remember what buttons NOT to push.

About 2 weeks into the process I had an epiphany.....I was no longer on the outside looking in....I was into it. I could sit down and operate the radio in a relaxed situation. About 3 weeks in I was adjusting the controls to get what I wanted, not to find out what the control did.

In comparison with my touch stone radio – the Icom746Pro -- the K3, at times, seemed difficult, but more flexible and capable. Whatever I was receiving with the K3, I would compare it immediately by listening to the 746Pro. I had them set up directly in front of me with an antenna switch in the middle of them so I could easily switch back and forth, making it convenient to compare. Initially the 746Pro would win hands down or at minimum be equal. I made the statement to my friend that if I could adjust the K3 to sound like and act like the 746Pro then I would be extremely happy and satisfied. That point came true after about 5 weeks. The K3 sounded good, I was familiar with the controls and I could get what I wanted.

### Summary – Part 1

What a radio! The thing that makes it so intimidating in the beginning is the thing that makes it the best. It's a completely open radio architecture, allowing you to change, set, modify any aspect of the receive or transmission chains. Plus, not only can you adjust it manually, you can also adjust it through the computer interface, which is even richer in control than the manual mode itself. At this point I am sure of 2 things: 1) my confidence in operating the K3 will only improve as I now know "where stuff is" and 2) that the K3 will continue on as a wonderful "work in progress" platform with firmware and hardware upgrades being designed and made available for many years to come.

I will expand further on the K3 operationally and performance wise in Part 2 of this article. 73...Rick – W5RH





## Minutes of April 4th, 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 April 4, 2013 at Fuddruckers, 11445 Fountain Lake Drive, Stafford, TX. Attending were:

Kirk Kendrick, KK2Z (Pres.); Peter Sauermilch, KD5QPX (Rec. Sec.); Ron Litt, K5HM (2yr At-Large Dir. & Radio Sport); Travis Burgess, K5HTB, (1yr At-Large Dir.); David Barber, K5NDB (1yr At-Large Dir.); Eddie Runner, NU5K (Webmaster); Cameron Mitchell, K5CAM; John Chauvin, K5IZO (Newsletter Editor); Bill Stone, WS5H; Charles Frost, K5LBU; Jerry Muller, KF5EYC; Matt Tatro, K5NGU; Ruck Hiller, W5RH; Ross Lawler, W5HFF; Mark Lawler.

1. Minutes for the March 7th, 2012 meeting were approved as previously distributed by email and distributed at the meeting.
2. Treasurer's Report was presented to and accepted by the Board.
3. Radio Sport (Litt):
  - 3.1. April: Texas state parks on the air, PKS 31 Flavors Contest (Pen Digital Society), Montana, Michigan, Missouri QSO, and the 10-10 International Spring Digital are all this month.
  - 3.2. Web calendar updated with contests.
4. VP Report:
  - 4.1. April: (Kendrick) BVARC will have a joint meeting with TxDX society. Litt will give presentation of DX software. John Stratton, N5AUS, ARRL West Gulf Director, will speak on the Texas Ham PAC.
  - 4.2. May: TBD
  - 4.3. June: Field Day & Museum Ships Weekend.
5. Old Business:
  - 5.1. Field Day: Tatro announced that the first announcement has been sent with a high number of responses.
6. New Business:
  - 6.1. Lawler: Tri Band Filter for Field Day requires user caution.
  - 6.2. Tatro: Working on Wi-Fi connection across site so can collocate operators.
  - 6.3. Tatro: Working with BAS to have merit badge for event.
  - 6.4. Motion made and passed to purchase one Tri-plexer (filters included) not to exceed \$500. Motion carried.
  - 6.5. Tatro: Will find out what is required to convert club 2 band yagi to tri-band.
  - 6.6. Stone: TxDS invited to BVARC Field Day operations but they'll use our call.
  - 6.7. Stone: Museum Ships, we have permission to use Sea Wolf facilities.
  - 6.8. Litt: For Museum Ships Weekend (first weekend in June), he has received emails telling BVARC to leave them alone until the end of March. The current rapport causes us to plan is to operate from the park, not on the ships. BVARC has park registered with Battle Ship New Jersey. By next board meeting matter will be resolved.
  - 6.9. Kendrick: QSL manager back-logged because of N0D. Kendrick asked if BVARC should have a set time to respond to a QSL request. Board responded with no decision to set time limit.
7. Meeting adjourned at 7:44 PM

Submitted by Recording Secretary, Peter Sauermilch, KD5QPX





## BVARC Historical Vignettes – BVARC and ARRL Field Day

Allen Mattis N5AFV, Club Historian

Many of our club's newer members are not aware that the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club was founded in 1977 for the primary purpose of providing emergency communications for the Fort Bend County area. We all know that participation in ARRL Field Day is one of the best ways for an amateur radio club to prepare and train for providing communications in an emergency. The first time BVARC participated in ARRL Field Day was in 1979 when BVARC's Field Day was held at the Fort Bend County Fairgrounds. Since that time, the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club has participated in Field Day for 34 consecutive years. This is truly an accomplishment that all members of BVARC should be proud of.

During the past 34 years, BVARC's Field Day has been held at eleven different locations. The most frequented locations have been the Fort Bend County Fire Department Training Center (10 years) and Katy County Park (6 years). Bear Creek Park was chosen to be our club's Field Day location for six years but heavy rains in both 1993 and 1994 flooded the park and the club had to scramble to find other locations on short notice. After being flooded out two years in a row, BVARC decided that the flood risk at Bear Creek Park made it unattractive as a Field Day site.

### BVARC ARRL Field Day Sites, 1979-2012

Location	Year(s)	Number of Years
Fort Bend County Fire Training Center	2001, 2003-10 & 2012	10
Katy County Park	1994-97 & 1999-2000	6
Brazos Bend State Park	1984-87	4
Bear Creek Park	1989-92	4
Fort Bend County Fairgrounds	1979-81	3
Behind the Missouri City Fire Station	1982-83	2
Mike Eason N5KRU Ranch, Belleville, TX	1988	1
Doug Holley KE5SR Residence	1993	1
Bay Area Park, Clear Lake	1998	1
George Bush Park	2002	1
Pecan Grove Park	2011	1

Total 34

Many different people chaired BVARC's Field Day over the years. In the early years of the club, Henry Freedenberg, N5HF, chaired Field Day from 1979 through 1982 and laid the ground work for ARRL Field Day to become BVARC's longest running club activity. Since that time approximately two dozen people have chaired or co-chaired BVARC's Field Day including Matt Tatro, K5NGU, who chaired our club's 2012 Field Day.



Editor's Note: My primary computer is down for at least a week. Some files are on it which can't be retrieved until I get the computer fired up. Please bear with me if some of this newsletter is not "up to par."





## Radiosport Events of Note for May 2013

**Museum Ships Weekend Event 2013 KK5W Friday 2 PM May 31st 2013 – Sunday June 2nd 2 PM** (Times are CDT) Seawolf Park Galveston, Tx Mark your calendars; Details to be announced. [www.bvarcsmwe.org](http://www.bvarcsmwe.org)

The first Weekend in May is always a weekend for QSO Parties.

Now is the time to grab Rhode Island for WAS or pickup those rare counties in the seventh call area. May 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> hosts the:

- 7th Call Area QSO Party (1300Z May 4<sup>th</sup> to 0700Z May 5<sup>th</sup>)  
<http://www.codxc.com/new/Page.asp?Content=DRYLAND7S&Page=3>
- Indiana QSO Party (1600z May 4<sup>th</sup> to 0400Z May 5<sup>th</sup>)  
<http://www.hdxcc.org/inqp/rules.html>
- New England QSO Party (2000Z May 4<sup>th</sup> to 2400Z May 5<sup>th</sup>)  
<http://www.neqp.org/rules.html>

For CW Fans this month there are three big contests. So get out the key or paddle or keyboard and get after it!

- CQ WW WPX Contest, CW( 0000Z May 25<sup>th</sup> to 2359Z May 26<sup>th</sup>)  
<http://www.cqwp.com/rules.htm>
- FISTS Spring Sprint (1700Z to 2100Z May 11<sup>th</sup>)  
<http://www.fists.org/sprints.html>
- 10-10 Int. Spring Contest, CW (0001Z May 4<sup>th</sup> to 2359 May 5<sup>th</sup>)  
<http://www.ten-ten.org/Forms/QSO%20Party%20Rules.pdf>

## Special Events in May

- **05/09/2013 | 1869 Transcontinental Rail Road Golden Spike Commemorative May 9-May 11, 1500Z-2300Z, W7SU, Ogden, UT.** Ogden Amateur Radio Club. 21.285 14.255 14.040 7.235. QSL. Ogden Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 3353, Ogden, UT 84409. 9 AM to 5 PM. [www.w7g.org](http://www.w7g.org)
- **05/09/2013 | National BBQ Month Celebration May 9-May 20, 1700Z-2200Z, K6BBQ, San Rafael, CA.** 18.140 14.330 14.270 14.050. QSL. Rem O'Donnelley, 101 Woodland Ave #4, San Rafael, CA 94901. [www.qrz.com/db/K6BBQ](http://www.qrz.com/db/K6BBQ)
- **05/11/2013 | Armed Forces Day, National Maritime Day May 11, 1600Z-2300Z, NI6IW, San Diego, CA. USS Midway (CV-41) Museum.** SSB 14.320 7.250 PSK 31 14.070 D-STAR 012C. QSL. USS Midway Museum Radio Room, 910 N Harbor Dr, San Diego, CA 92101.
- **05/18/2013 | Air Power Museum Armed Forces Day May 18-May 19, 0920Z-0420Z, W2GSB, Farmingdale, NY. Great South Bay Amateur Radio Club.** 14.325 14.070 7.255 3.975. QSL. W2GSB/APM, PO Box 1356, West Babylon, NY 11704. ARMED FORCES DAY
- **05/20/2013 | Lindberg Crosses the Atlantic May 20-May 21, 1152Z-2122Z, K2CAM, Garden City, NY. Cradle of Aviation Museum.** 14.245 7.245 3.745 1.945. QSL. LIMARC, Att: Cradle of Aviation Event, PO Box 392, Levittown, NY 11756.
- **05/20/2013 | W9IMS Indy 500 Special Event May 20-May 26, 2300Z-2200Z, W9IMS, Indianapolis, IN. Indianapolis Motor Speedway Amateur Radio Club.** 21.350 14.245 7.240 3.840. Certificate & QSL. IMS ARC, PO Box 30954, Indianapolis, IN 46230. [w9ims.org](http://w9ims.org)

Reporting from the Dark Side  
Ron, K5HM



2013 Club Officers:

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

Vice President:  
Terry Leatherland, W5PGF  
[k5pgf@yahoo.com](mailto:k5pgf@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)

2 Year At-Large Board Member A:  
David Barber, K5NDB

2 Year At-Large Board Member B:  
Ron Litt, K5HM  
[k5hm.ron@gmail.com](mailto:k5hm.ron@gmail.com)

1 Year at Large Board Member  
Travis Burgess, K5THB  
[travburg1@sbcglobal.net](mailto: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](mailto:jwm@hal-pc.org)

Eating Schedule

See in adjacent column.

Rag Chew Net

3910 KHz +/-3KHz Wednesdays  
at 7:00 p.m.

Public Service Net

Monday night on 146.94 (PL 167.9) at 8:00 PM



## BVARC EATING SCHEDULE

### SATURDAY MORNING BREAKFAST

59 DINER, 7:00a.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>

### 05/04/2013 Smithville Hamfest 2013

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

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

**Sponsor:** Bastrop County Amateur Radio Club

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

**Email:** [wd5iqr.al@gmail.com](mailto:wd5iqr.al@gmail.com)

### 06/07&08/2013 Ham-Com

**Location:** Plano Centre

2000 East Spring Creek Parkway, Plano, TX 75023

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

### 07/13/2013 Texas City Hamfest 2013

Tidelands Amateur Radio Society

Doyle Convention Center,

2010 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue North, Texas City, TX

8:00 AM until 2:00 PM.



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

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

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

BVARC General Membership Meeting – Thursday, May 9, 7:30 PM  
Museum Ships Weekend Event 2013 KK5W Friday 2 PM May 31st 2013 – Sunday June 2<sup>nd</sup> 2 PM

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