



BRAZOS VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



AMATEUR RADIO FOR SOUTHWEST HOUSTON AND FORT BEND COUNTY

DECEMBER 2013

VOLUME 37 ISSUE 12



BVARC DECEMBER GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

7:30 PM, Thursday, December 12, 2013

2511 Eldridge Rd, Sugar Land, 77478, Eldridge Park Conference Center

Home Brew Night

Have you been tinkering lately? Have you modified your gear to bend it to your will? Have you voided yet another warranty? Have you built a kit? GREAT! Bring your projects to the meeting and let's play "Show and Tell". Even if you are in the middle of the project, bring it down and share your grand master plan. Then, bring it back next December to show us the finished project.

If you've been thinking of getting yourself into the dirty side of ham radio, come and see what others are doing, and perhaps you'll come away with some ideas for projects of your own.



November meeting recap – Vote for Chili?

At the November meeting we had two exciting events; The Elections, and the Chili. The enthusiasm for joining the Board of Directors seemed a bit lacking this year. That said, we had some great candidates that stepped up to fill the roles. Bill Stone / WS5H, Matt Tatro / K5NGU and Nathan Vessey / N5NYV, all through their names in for club president. In the end, the victory belonged to Mr. Bill Stone.

We had one candidate for the position of Recording Secretary, and one candidate for the position of Two Year at Large member. The membership agreed to allow them the positions, and we welcome Mr. Michael Monsour / AC0TX to the board as the Recording Secretary, and we welcome Mr. Jerry Muller / KF5EYC to the board as our Two Year at Large member. Once the politicking had ceased, the chili feasting began. Several of our members showed their culinary abilities with some unique edibles. No one went hungry, and no pot went home full. Thank you to those chefs who took the time to make a dish.

Note: These notices are submitted by Michael Wren, K5WRN, BVARC VP & Program Chairperson



President's Corner for Dec 2013

By Kirk Kendrick – KK2Z

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

December is homebrew month at BVARC. Have you built something in 2013 you want to share with the club? Dust off your soldering iron, build a kit, build something from scratch, or just put your touch on something to make it better. They all count!

Are you ready for the holidays? Cooler weather and improved propagation make operating from the shack or the field equally fun. I'm planning to try JT65 and some of the other weak signal modes...something new for me. I'm going to use the reverse beacon network to check my signal strength, and learn to use this tool to test my ability to reach far off lands.

My holidays will be spent getting my new shack in order (after moving furniture into our house in the country). I have a bunch of kitchen cabinets sitting in my storage shed that I plan to repurpose as electronics benches and storage. I just need to work out my operating desk. Key item is grounding and lightening protection. And of course planning for more antennas!

The BVARC Annual Awards Banquet is 10th January at the Houston Museum of Natural Science in Sugar Land. Tickets go on sale shortly for \$25 for members and their first guest and \$55 for other attendees. Guest speaker, dinner, awards presentation, and admission to the museum exhibits all included. I hope you can join us!

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

Mondays at 8pm CST on 146.36 MHz PL 100.0 (courtesy of TDXS) or 146.94 PL 167.9 (courtesy of Pump Handle Fawcett) 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 147.36 (100.0). 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:

8/19 - 25 - Ron, k5hm	9/23 - 26- Pete, kd5qpx	10/28 - 28 - Terry, k5pgf
8/26 - 30 - Pete, kd5qpx	9/30 - 27 - Pete, kd5qpx	11/4 - 26 - Cam, k5cam
9/2 - 23 - Cam, k5cam	10/7 - 22 - Cam, k5cam	11/11 - 23 - Willard, kd5eka
9/9 - 18 - Willard, kd5eka	10/14 - 20 - Willard, kd5eka	11/18 - 26 - Ron, k5hm
9/16 - 16 - Willard, kd5eka	10/21 - 16 - Willard, kd5eka	11/25 - 24 - Pete, kd5qpx

THE BVARC Rag Chew Net November Check-ins

Below is the BVARC Rag Chew Net check-in information:

10/30/13, K5LKJ (NCS), W5TKZ, KC5VAE (Patrick), WA5CYI, K5LJ, KE5OBY, W5HFF, K5IZO, N5CPA, KF5PHA, N5ASH (El Campo), WS5H, AF5T, KF5TFJ, WA5KXG, KF5JMJ (Pasadena), KL7AX (Katy), K5WRN. (18 Check-Ins)
Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 142, SN = 171, A = 11, K = 3

11/06/13, K5LKJ (NCS), W5TKZ, K5LBU, KJ5SS (San Angelo), WS5H, AF5T, K5LJ, KF5TFJ, AD5AQ (Ruston, LA), KE5OBY, W5TOM, K5IZO, AA0ST (Dickenson), KL7AX (Katy), VK2AJB/5 (RCS) (Sidney, Australia), KC5JAR (Katy), WN5A, W5HFF, AA5OA, KC6JSM, KF5EYX. (21 Check-Ins)
Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 149, SN = 134, A = 5, K = 1

11/13/13, K5LKJ (NCS), W5TKZ, AF5T, KF5TFJ, W5HFF, KE5OBY, WN5A, W5TOM, K5LJ, AA0ST (Dickenson), WA5CYI, VK2AJB/5 (RCS) (Sidney, Australia), WS5H, N5CPA, KL7AX (Katy). (15 Check-Ins)
Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 171, SN = 147, A = 3, K = 0

11/20/13, K5LKJ (NCS), W5TKZ, KCRJAR (Katy), WA5CYI, KD5CDM, WATJMC (T), KF5PPA (T), KJ5SS (San Angelo), W5TOM, K5LJ, KE5OBY (R), WN5A, WS5H, AF5T, KL7AX (Katy), N5ASH (El Campo), W5RH, VK2AJB/5 (RCS) (Sidney, Australia), KF5PHA, KF5TFJ, K5IZO, WB5PUN (Diana), AA0ST (Dickenson), K5WRN.. (24 Check-Ins)
Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 153, SN = 113, A = 3, K = 2

(M) = mobile (P) = Portable (R) = Relay (RCS) = remote controlled station (T) = telephone check-in

Come join us each Wednesday evening. Regards. John K5LKJ



Results of the November 12th 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, November 12, 2013 at HCC's Scarcella Science & Technology building here in Stafford, TX.

MEMBERS OF THE VE TEAM:

Larry Jacobson, K5LJ John Moore, KK5NU George Ontko, KM5VP

Five examination elements were administered during the evening to five applicants. Three new Technicians and one upgrade to General class licenses were attained, with the total number of elements passed being 4. The overall "pass rate" for the evening was 80%.

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

Robert J. Malley	-	KF5YUX	-	General
Imtiyaz K. Maredia	-	{KF5ZDR}	-	Technician
Robert S. Sheldon	-	{KF5ZDS}	-	Technician
William W. Wade Jr.	-	{KF5ZDT}	-	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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2 Nights Before Christmas - Ron Litt, K5HM

Two nights before Christmas and up at the shop,
Santa was checking his sleigh for the big hop.

His APRS was already on line,
So the gang down at NORAD could track him 5 – 9.

The new HF rig was tuned up on 20.
He knew that 100 watts would be plenty.

“I’ll be on VOX for this flight”, he said in his head.
I have to be able to look straight ahead.”

So sideband it is for the big night tomorrow.
I hope the CW guys won’t be too full of sorrow.

The two meter rig was already encoded,
with every repeater that could be uploaded.

They’ll know when Santa’s near; they won’t be surprised,
and make sure the kids have all closed their eyes.

He stopped for a moment then gave a big start,
when he suddenly realized he was missing a part.

“Of course!”, he shouted. “its my laptop PC!
I won’t get far without it on my knee.”

“Its got my log and my list and my flight plan too,
though I always have Rudolph to guide me through.”

He pulled out his wallet once more to check,
that his FCC license was there for the trek.

“Well, it looks like I’m ready”, they heard him declare,
“I’ll be single op unassisted for the entire affair.”

“I better get some rest now before the big night,
So I can be ready for the long flight.”

And they heard him exclaim as walked off to bed,
“CQ, CQ, CQ . . . QRZed?”

Merry Christmas Y’all

73,
Ron, K5HM



BVARC Election Minutes Notes 11/14/2013

Meeting was called to order at 7:33PM. Kirk Kendrick presided as Current President.

1. Meeting agenda:
 - 1.1. Announcements
 - 1.2. Standing Roll Call
 - 1.3. Election
 - 1.4. Chili Supper
2. Announcements:
 - 2.1. Michael Wrenn/Kirk Kendrick: December Meeting will be the annual "Home Brew" event.
 - 2.2. Ron Litt: He and Matt Tatro have been operating the "BVARV in the Park" on an intermittent basis after the Saturday Breakfasts from Cullen Park north of Sugar Land's municipal airport.
 - 2.3. Scott Medbury: On Pearl Harbor Day, the Museum Ship Lexington, will be operating as a special event station.
 - 2.4. Jerry Muller: On Pearl Harbor Day, the Museum Ship Texas, will be also be operating as a special event station.
 - 2.5. Bill Stone: The SHOT Net operates every Tuesday at 8PM on 28.488.
 - 2.6. John White: The BVARC Wednesday Rag Chew operates every Wednesday at 7PM on 3910±3.
 - 2.7. Muller: The BVARC Night Public Service Net operates every Monday at 8PM on 147.36 +100.
3. Election:
 - 3.1. Rick Hiller, as Past President, officiated the election.
 - 3.2. Election for a new President:
 - 3.2.1. Bill Stone (WS5H), Matt Tatro (K5NGU), and Nathan Vessey (N5NYV) volunteered to stand as candidates.
 - 3.2.2. Stone and Vessey left room. Tatro was not present at the meeting.
 - 3.2.3. Bill Stone won election by show of hands.
 - 3.3. Election for a new Recording Secretary:
 - 3.3.1. Michael Monsour (AC0TX) had volunteered to stand as candidate.
 - 3.3.2. Monsour left room.
 - 3.3.3. Michael Monsour won election by show of hands.
 - 3.4. Election for a new Director, Two Year at Large:
 - 3.4.1. Jerry Muller (KF5EYC) had volunteered to stand as candidate.
 - 3.4.2. Muller left room.
 - 3.4.3. Jerry Muller won election by show of hands.
 - 3.5. Hiller declared election finished.
4. Chili Supper:

Minutes submitted by Peter Sauermilch (KD5QPX), Recording Secretary.

Editor's note: Normally minutes of the General Membership Meeting are not included in the newsletter. However because official action was taken (elections), they are included this time.



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LONG LIVE CW!

(and SSB, FM, PSK and all the other modes and facets of amateur radio that offer such an abundance of activity to participate in).



Minutes of November 7th, 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 7:02 PM on November 7th, 2013 at Fuddruckers, 11445 Fountain Lake Drive, Stafford, TX. Attending were; Kirk Kendrick, KK2Z (Pres.); Michael Wrenn, K5WRN (V.P.); Bob Tomlinson, N5JSL (Cor. Sec./Treas.); Peter Sauermilch, KD5QPX (Rec. Sec.); Ron Litt, K5HM (2yr At-Large Dir. & Radio Sport); Travis Burgess, K5HTB, (1yr At-Large Dir.); Rick Hiller, W5RH (proxy for David Barber, 2yr At-Large Dir.); Cameron Mitchell, K5CAM; Michael Monsour, AC0TX (Quartermaster); Ross Lawler, W5HFF; Mark Lawler; Bill Stone, WS5H; Norma Stone, KE5NDN; Sharon Tomlinson, KF5HUF; Charles Frost, K5LBU; Jerry Muller, KF5EYC; Matt Tatro, K5NGU; Roy Storey, W5TKZ.

1. Recording Secretary's Report: Minutes for the October 2013 meeting were approved as previously distributed by email and appears in the November 2013 newsletter.
2. Treasurer's Report: A financial statement was presented to and accepted by the Board.
3. Vice President's Report:
 - 3.1. October Meeting (Auction): It went well.
 - 3.2. November Meeting (Chili Supper and Elections): No Chili-meister has come forward. Darrell Kirk volunteered to bring Fritos. Muller volunteered to bring bowls, spoons, and napkins.
4. Quartermaster's Report: Monsour reported progress on marking equipment. He showed an example coaxial cable.
5. Radio Sport Report: Litt reported that November Radio Sport events have been distributed to Net Control Operators and the newsletter.
6. Old Business:
 - 6.1. Kendrick summarized October meeting straw-poll regarding Permanent Home.
 - 6.2. Kendrick summarized Astronomy day as a rained-out event.
 - 6.3. Kendrick summarized the newsletter opt-out status. He will announce the option at the November meeting and in the newsletter.
 - 6.4. Kendrick requested the shipment status of club QSL cards. Litt stated that all QSL cards owed have been sent.
 - 6.5. Muller wanted to know budget status. Kendrick said committee has not finished their work. Kendrick asked Tomlinson to have budget by the February 2014 board meeting. Tomlinson said they would try.
7. New business:
 - 7.1. Kendrick announced that the December 2013 board meeting would be a closed meeting. The date and time were to be determined.
 - 7.2. Sauermilch, who has been securing meeting room reservations, reminded the board that he is off the board at year end. He recommended that the board find a Sugar Land resident to make future meeting reservations with the City of Sugar Land. Kendrick tabled action to be addressed by the new board.
 - 7.3. Kendrick proposed that the 2014 Awards Banquet be at the Houston Natural Science Museum (Sugar Land), as was this year. Litt made a motion that the 2014 banquet be a repeat of the 2013 with the same price structure. That motion was voted and carried.
 - 7.4. Kendrick asked board guidance on the matter of inviting other amateur radio clubs to the 2014 banquet. Board left matter to his discretion.
 - 7.5. Mitchell asked if there was interest in a VHF Award, such as Net Control Operators. Kendrick asked Mitchell to make a more formal proposal as to its nature and structure.
 - 7.6. Kendrick asked board guidance on the number of awards at banquet. Discussion followed with no consensus.
8. Meeting adjourned at 7:48 PM

Submitted by Recording Secretary, Peter Sauermilch, KD5QPX



BVARC Historical Vignettes – Houston SHOT Ham Bash

Allen Mattis N5AFV, Club Historian

Over the years many members of BVARC have participated in the activities of the Houston SHOT chapter of Ten-Ten International. Ten-Ten International was formed in 1962 to promote use of the 10 meter band. There was a great deal of concern among amateur radio operators at the time that the FCC would take the 10 meter band away from amateur radio as they had done with the 11 meter band a few years earlier when the Citizens Band Radio Service was created. In 1975 seven Houston area amateur radio operators met at the home of Bob Libbers, WB5FII, to form a Houston chapter of Ten-Ten International. They decided to name the chapter **S**pace **H**ouston **O**n **T**en which soon became known by the acronym SHOT.

Sometime prior to 1979 the Houston SHOT chapter instituted an annual activity called the Houston SHOT Ham Bash. The Ham Bash, which was held in Bear Creek Park at a large pavilion, was a full weekend event much like Field Day. The chapter would set up an HF station and operate from the park on Saturday. Permission to stay overnight and operate after the park closed at 10 PM was obtained.

Some years a raffle was held for a hand held VHF radio or similar item, and occasionally there was also a flea market or small swap fest. At the 1985 Ham Bash I bought a used Kenwood AT-200 antenna tuner that matched my Kenwood TS-520S transceiver. The TS-520S is long gone but I still use the AT-200.

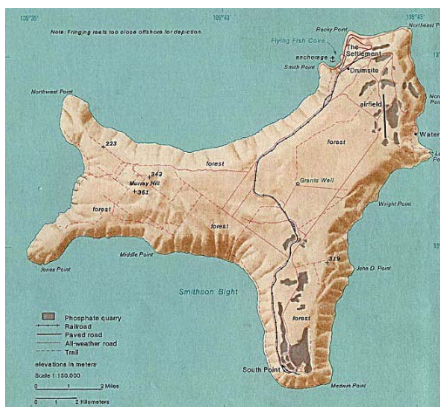
Early Sunday morning at about 7 AM a wood fire would be started in a BBQ pit adjacent to the large pavilion. The SHOT chapter would buy 50 to 75 whole chickens, cut them in half, and cook them in the BBQ pit. Over the years there were three different cooks. The names of the first two cooks are lost to history; however, the last cook was Fred Jones, KC5AC. Attendees would enjoy the delicious food.

The last Houston SHOT Ham Bash was held in 1985. It took a great deal of work to put on the event and problems were encountered with park procedures for reserving the large pavilion. A special thank you goes to Mike Davidson, N5MT, chapter head of the Houston SHOT chapter of Ten-Ten International for providing information about the Ham Bash.



Where is the World is . . .

Christmas Island, (VK9X)
OC-002



That's right little Jimmy. Do you think Santa Clause really likes living at the North Pole? He prefers the temperate climates of the tropics. Christmas Island is a territory of Australia in the Indian Ocean. It has a population of 2,072 residents who live in a number of "settlement areas" on the northern tip of the island variously called Flying Fish Cove, Kampong, Silver City, Poon Saan and Drumsite. The majority of the population are Chinese Australian. It is called Christmas Island because it was discovered on Christmas Day, 1643 by Capt William Mynors of the Royal Mary an East India Company trading vessel as he sailed past it. In 1957, the island was transferred from the U.K. to Australian sovereignty.

Geographically, the island lies closer to Central Java (380 KM) than Australia (1565 KM) but it seems that the Indonesians aren't interested and the Australians aren't having much luck either. Phosphate mining had been the only significant economic activity, but in December 1987 the Australian government closed the mine. In 1991, the mine was reopened by a consortium which included many of the former mine workers as shareholders. With the support of the government, the \$34 million Christmas Island Casino and Resort opened in 1993, but was closed in 1998. As of 2011, the resort has re-opened without the casino.

The Australian government in 2001 agreed to support the creation of a commercial spaceport on the island, however this has not yet been constructed, and appears that it will not proceed in the future. The Australian government built a temporary immigration detention center on the island in 2001

Christmas island ranks 69th on the DXCC Most Wanted List.

Kiritimati (The Other Christmas Island) (T32) OC-024

Kiritimati or Christmas Island is a Pacific Ocean raised coral atoll in the northern Line Islands, and part of the Republic of Kiribati. The name "Kiritimati" is a rather straightforward respelling of the English word "Christmas" in Gilbertese, in which the combination *ti* is pronounced *s*, and the name is thus pronounced [kə'ɾisməs]. The island has the greatest land area of any coral atoll in the world: about 150 sq mi; its lagoon is about the same size. The atoll is about 93 mi in perimeter, while the lagoon shoreline extends for over 30 mi. Christmas Island comprises over 70% of the total land area of Kiribati, a country encompassing 33 Pacific atolls and islands. It lies 144 mi north of the Equator, 4,160 mi from Sydney, and 3,330 mi from San Francisco. Christmas Island is in the world's farthest forward time zone, UTC+14, and is one of the first inhabited places on Earth to experience the New Year



Christmas Island was discovered by the Spanish in 1537. Captain James Cook visited it on Christmas Eve (24 December) 1777. It was claimed by the United States under the Guano Islands Act of 1856, though little actual mining of guano took place. In the 1840s, guano came to be prized as a source of saltpeter for gunpowder as well as an agricultural fertilizer. In 1855, the U.S. learned of rich guano deposits on islands in the Pacific Ocean. Congress passed the Guano Islands Act to take advantage of these deposits. It allowed any citizen of the United States who discovers a deposit of guano on any island, rock, or key, not within the lawful jurisdiction of any other Government, and not occupied by the citizens of any other Government, to take peaceable possession of, such island, rock, or key and the discretion of the President, be considered as a part of the United States. In 1983, the island was ceded to the Republic of Kiribati as most americans had enough guano

Christmas island has been visited by eight recent DXpeditions. As part of Eastern Kiribati it is the 154th most wanted DXCC entity.

Reporting from the Dark Side,

Ron, K5HM





Radiosport Items of note for December 2013

Closing out what has been a great year as we ride the peak of Cycle 24. There are some notable contests in this typically slow December.

Nordic Amateur Radio Union 10 Meter Contest December 5th

This contest has a different twist – CW from 1800-1900UTC, SSB 1900-2000 UTC, FM 2000-2100 UTC, Digital 2100-2200 UTC, all on the same day.

ARRL 160 Meter Contest Dec 6,7,8

SKCC Weekend Sprintathon Dec 7,8

EPC Ukrainian DX Contest (PSK 63) Dec 7th – Dec 8th.

ARRL 10 meter Contest Dec 14-15

ARRL Rookie Roundup, CW Dec 22 – Make a friend; work a new ham.

RAC Winter Contest Dec 28th – I am still looking for a contact from the Yukon Territory.

Stew Perry Top Band Challenge Dec 28, 29 – Perfect for the 160 meter devotees.

AND, the ever popular **AGP QSO Party Dec 21st. Belarus versus the world!** Don't miss it.

For detailed start times and rules go to <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/contestcal.html> or click the Contest Calendar link at www.bvarc.org

Special Events this month include

Dec 7th - Pearl Harbor Remembrance – Various. In our area keep an eye out for W5LEX USS Lexington and NA5DV, Battleship Texas will be on the air.

Dec 13th – Friday the 13th Special Event W1E

For details and more special events visit:

http://www.arrl.org/special_events/search/page:5/Date.start:2013-09-01/Date.end:2013-09-30/model:Event

Reporting from the Dark Side
Ron, K5HM



2013 Club Officers:

President:
Kirk Kendrick, KK2Z
kmkendrick@gmail.com

Vice President:
Michael Wrenn, K5WRN
michael.wrenn@gmail.com

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

Recording Secretary:
Pete Sauermilch, KD5QPX
kd5qpx@arrl.net

2 Year At-Large Board Member A:
Rick Hiller, W5RH
rhiller@sdicgm.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
2511 Eldridge Rd, Sugar Land, 77478, Eldridge
Park Conference Center (Check page 1)

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 147.36 (100.0) at 8:00 PM



BVARC EATING SCHEDULE

SATURDAY MORNING BREAKFAST
IHOP, 7:00a.m., SW Freeway inbound 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>

01/11/2014 | 2014 Amateur Radio Fiesta

Location: Schertz, TX
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: San Antonio Radio Club
Website: <http://w5sc.org>

3/22/2014 Greater Houston Hamfest

Location: Ft. Bend County Fairgrounds, Rosenberg, TX
Sponsor: Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club.
Website: HoustonHamfest.org





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Serving Amateur Radio for Southwest Houston and Fort Bend County
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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 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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DECEMBER, 2013

**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, December 12, 7:30 PM

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