



BRAZOS VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



AMATEUR RADIO FOR SOUTHWEST HOUSTON AND FORT BEND COUNTY

JANUARY 2015

VOLUME 39 ISSUE 1

BVARC JANUARY ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET

6:00 PM, Friday, January 16, 2015

2010 Post Oak Blvd, Houston, 77056, Maggiano's Little Italy Restaurant

A Feast For The Masses

The year twenty-fourteen has finally come to a close. And not a slow languid close, but a fast rush like that of a high speed train, sort of close. Yes, this past year flew by, and with it many great BVARC events. So, here in January as we start off the new year, we gather together to reflect upon the year we leave behind and its fond memories, and we make plans for this year's new events and memories to be made. What better way to mingle over such great conversation than over a fine meal. Please join your fellow club members and guests at Maggiano's Little Italy on Friday January 16. Meal tickets are only \$25. Everyone is welcome. Please visit the BVARC.ORG website to register for the dinner.



December Meeting Recap – 1.21 GIGAWATTS!!!

They may not be inventors or even mathematical geniuses, but they are the brave souls who took on the challenge handed down by the gods of the volt and the amp; The lords of the ohm and the hertz. These courageous men brought before us their great works which they presented to a captivated crowd.

We at BVARC thank these fine amateurs for bringing in some very excellent projects and sharing them with us.

Now is the perfect time to be thinking about some projects to share at the end of this year. Perhaps you have a project that you never finished, or a junk box full of potential, no pun intended. Get creative throughout the year and then bring the results to the club meeting in December.



ANNUAL BANQUET

The Annual Awards Banquet will be held on January 16th, 2015 at Maggiano's Little Italy, 2010 Post Oak Boulevard, Houston, Texas 77056. Cocktails and drinks will begin at 6 PM in the Tuscany Room on the second floor of the restaurant. An elevator is available. There will be a cash bar.

Banquet tickets are \$25 per person. Advance reservations only. Sorry; we have to provide the restaurant with a firm headcount in advance. **All payments must be received no later than January 9th.** Checks or payments received after that date will be returned.

You may purchase your tickets by PayPal or check payable to BVARC. Mail checks to:
Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 2997
Sugar Land, Texas 77487-2997

A three course meal with an Italian flair will be served. Guests will have a choice of appetizers and entrees.

The balance of the program and menu details are to be announced.



From the President, Bill Stone, WS5H

To our BVARC members And Amateur Radio Guests

Greetings and Best wishes for a Happy New Year.

The attached picture shows the outgoing 2014 December Holiday season at the WS5H and KE5NDN QTH Bill and Norma's radio station the day after Christmas. (Notice the cat Kebe has RF glow in her eyes)

I will make this short and sweet. Please be reminded that we will have NO general membership meeting in January as we will have the AWARDS BVARC BANQUET. See details in this newsletter issue. Please come join us with this special BVARC Banquet.

As many requested info on this topic- The January BOD meeting 1st Thursday fell on New Years and the community center was / is closed. In the Dec. minutes you will see where a date in later Dec. was made by BOD and set to meet for Jan BOD meeting. As that date arrived many BOD members found it to interfere with holiday plans and thus were cancelled. Be assured your BVARC Biz is being handled via email open vote and please keep sending your comments and suggestions to any of your 2015 BOD entrusted servants. The next open BVARC 2015 BOD meeting will be Feb. 5th 2015 at Bayland Park Community Center. You are invited to attend.

TEAM BVARC has done much for Amateur radio in 2014 and look forward to more accomplishments in 2015 with our sanctioned events and special service tasks.

CU at Banquet
73 Bill Stone 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: \

9/15 - 17 - Ron, k5hm	10/20 - 21 - Ron, k5hm	11/24 - 23 - Pete, kd5qpx
9/22 - 22 - Pete, kd5qpx	10/27 - 23 - Pete, kd5qpx	12/1 - 26 - Mark, n5vcm
9/29 - 16 - Dave, n5ekw	11/3 - 42 - Bill, ws5h	12/8 - 26 - Mark, n5vcm
10/6 - 30 - Cam, k5cam	11/10 - 29 - Rick, w5rh	12/15 - 25 - Ron, k5hm
10/13 - 24 - Rick, w5rh	11/17 - 31 - Ron, k5hm	12/22 - 27 - Pete, kd5qpx





Your Ham Radio Hobby – What to Do in 2015?

We all have New Year's Resolutions. (Mine in 2014 was to work all of the W1AW portables) Resolutions are, typically, very hard to stick to, as "life gets in the way". But those who do stick to a resolution end up being successful at losing 50 pounds, saving \$2000, running that 13.1 half marathon, working all of the W1AW portables, etc. So why not do something completely different for your Ham Radio 2015 Resolution. I have thought of a few as I was trying to come up with mine and I thought I'd pass them along as a teaser. All require some effort into information research and/or some soldering.

Have a QSO with the ISS Get lost in space communications. That would involve tracking the International Space Station -- ISS, using the right antenna, the right frequency and mode, etc. All of which, when you are starting anew, requires you to read all about Earth to Space communications. There are plenty of web sites and groups, like AmSat to help you along with this one.

Build and use an SDR based radio There are many Software Defined Radio – SDR kits out there. They are fairly easy to put together. Hone up on your soldering skills. Dig into the technology behind it and find out how they work as compared to that old school, dual conversion, IF based transceiver on your shack desk. Interface it to your computer and load the controlling software like Power SDR or another. Be it a receiver or a transceiver, get on the bands and see what it can do. You might end up asking Santa for a bigger SDR based radio for Christmas next year. Again the web is a tremendous resource for info on SDR's.

Work a few contests A contest is just a big game. They are fun. Easiest is to work are the State QSO Parties on SSB Phone. Simple exchange – report and state/county. There are other DX Contests (games) that are just as simple – Report and QTH. No long exchanges or weird modes or CW flying by at 40 words per minute. Stay away from those contests and modes for now, but do participate in a few of the less intense contests. There are one or more games EVERY weekend for you to enjoy for a few hours or the whole weekend. BVARC usually does a joint-member participation on a few of these throughout the year. So jump on in the propagation is fine. One resource is the [ARRL Contesting Newsletter](#) – an excellent source of contest and technical info. Authored by Ward Silver, our 2014 Greater Houston Hamfest Keynote speaker.

Use a new mode Most Hams can chin wag, rag chew, ratchet jaw, etc. Talking is built into the human body genome. But what about using the other various modes that are available us as Hams. CW is the one mode that immediately comes to mind, that most new Hams avoid. It takes A LOT of mental effort. Now, the digital modes are numerous and quite popular; starting with RTTY (Radio Teletype) from whence it all came. PSK and the popular weak signal work "JT" modes can be used for fun filled worldwide Q's. It takes some reading up on the how's and why's and it also takes a computer, but most of us have one of those lying around.

There are many more new and different activities in which to partake, but I will stop with these. Whichever new task you resolve to pick in 2015, have fun with it, dig into it, become the expert and the club Elmer of that particular mode. Spread the word by writing a newcomers guide to the mode for the BVARC Newsletter. Do your best with your 2015 pick and remember to always have fun with our hobby.

Happy New Year from **The Radio Hotel**. Rick – W5RH





Radiosport Items of Note for January 2015

For a complete list of contests click the link below:

<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/contestcal.html>

QSO Parties – An easy way to try a contest for the first time. State QSO Parties are relaxed events. If you happen to need these states for WAS, they are a great way to work states you can't easily find on the bands otherwise.

- **ARRL Centennial QSO Party Ends 0000Z Jan 1st 2015**
- No State QSO Parties in January

Mixed Mode Contests

- ARRL January VHF Contest Jan 24th – 26th
- DARC 10 Meter Contest ARRL 10 Meter Contest Jan 11th
- Hungarian DX Contest – Jan 17th – 18th

SSB Contests

- North American QSO Party, SSB – Jan 17th – 18th
- Nordic ARU Baltic Contest Jan 11th

CW Contests

- North American QSO Party, CW – Jan 10th – 11th
- EU CW 160 Meter Contest Jan 4th – 5th
- LZ (Bulgaria) Open Contest Jan 17th

Digital Contests

- ARRL RTTY Roundup Jan 3rd – 4th

Selected Special Event Activities

ARRL Straight Key Night – Jan 1st 0000Z- 2359Z ; <http://www.arrl.org/straight-key-night>

Silent Key Memorial Weekend, K5D – Jan 16th – 18th

Kansas Day – K5OKS Jan 24th

Winter Field Day Jan 24th – 25th , Society for the Preservation of Amateur Radio

And – The Ever Popular!

Frog Leg Festival -Jan 10th – K4FRT, Fellsmere, Fl.

For details on every Special Event in November, go to

http://www.arrl.org/special_events/search/page:3/Date.start:2015-01-01/Date.end:2015-01-31/model:Event

Reporting from the Dark Side,
Ron, K5HM





River Oaks Car Stereo

4129 Richmond (near Wesleyan) 713-626-7627
Houston, Texas 77027



HAM RADIO IS BACK IN HOUSTON AGAIN!

Ham Radio -Emergency Strobe Lights- Police Scanners-Car Stereo
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Blake - KF5RKJ
Patricia - K5PLR

www.houstonhamradio.com
www.riveroakscarstereo.com
www.installer.com

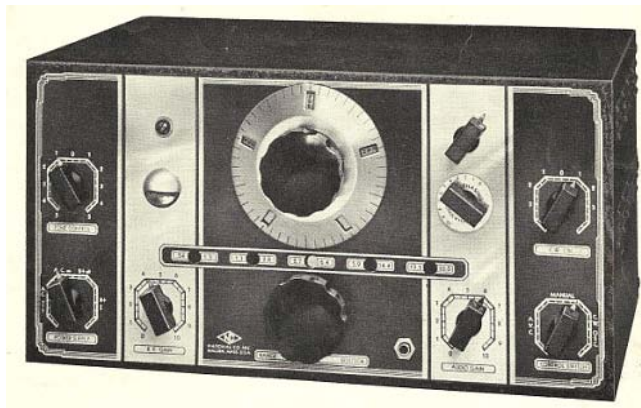
Yes, we can install Ham radio in your car!



Greater Houston Hamfest – March 28, 2015

On-line tables and pre-registration is up and running. As this issue goes to press, about 2/3rds of the tables are taken. We have sold out the past few years, so get yours while the better tables are still available. Also, remember that with pre-registration, admission is \$8 (vs. \$10 at the door) plus you get 2 raffle tickets and access to the VIP expedited entrance. The website is mostly updated and additional information is uploaded as soon as known. If you haven't volunteered to help during the preparation (between now and the event) or during the event, please do so as that is the greatest limitation in making this happen. Contact the new Chairperson, Nathan Vessey, N5NYV, at ghhamfest@att.net or (c) 832-603-1535.

Go to the Greater Houston Hamfest website at: www.houstonhamfest.org



**Results of the December 9th
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, December 9, 2014 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

Three examination elements were administered during the evening to four applicants. Two new Technician class and one grandfathered upgrade to General class license were attained, with the total number of elements passed being 2. The overall "pass rate" for the evening was 66.67%.

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

Michael H. Brockmyre	- {KG5FEL}	Technician
E Kit Keith Jr.	- {KG5FEM}	Technician
Matthew P. Miller	- K5LKV	General

Many thanks to all the Team Members and Assistants who volunteer their valuable time and effort each month. All of us at B-VARC again thank everyone at HCC Scarcella Science & Technology Building for making these excellent classroom facilities available to us for our exams each month.

..... 73



**Have you made your BVARC banquet reservations yet?
You must reserve in advance. Reservations close on January 9
Get all the information on the BVARC website, www.bvarc.org**

**Have you volunteered to help with the Greater Houston Hamfest?
We need as much help of any level of ability as possible. Contact
this year's Chairperson, Nathan Vessey, N5NYV, at
gghamfest@att.net or (c) 832-603-1535.**



Minutes of the December Board of Directors meeting of the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club

Bill Stone called the monthly Board of Directors meeting for the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club to at 7:03 PM on December 4 2014 at Bayland Park Community Center, 6400 Bissonnet, Houston 77074.

Attending were:

Bill Stone WS5H (Pres), Michael Wrenn K5WRN (V.P.), Bob Tomlinson N5JSL (Cor.Sec./Treas.), Michael Monsour ACØTX (Rec.Sec./Quart.), Ron Litt K5HM (2yr At-Large Dir.& Radio Sport), Jerry Muller KF5EYC (2yr At-Large Dir.), Eddie Runner NU5K Webmaster, Nathan Vessey N5NYV (1yr At-Large Dir), Norma Stone KE5NDN

Reports:

- 1.1 A motion was made and passed to accept the minutes as published in the Newsletter.
- 1.2 A motion was made and passed to accept the Treasurer's financial posting.
- 1.3 Ron Litt K5HM gave the projected year-end numbers for the budget. The auction proceeds need to be inserted into the budget. The auction next year may be a multi-club auction. We are on schedule with our budget. There was less expense for the banquet. The number of people that show up determines the actual cost of the banquet. Funds need to spent for banquet door prizes. Two items need to be brought into the budget; Ice Cream Social at \$300 and Chili Supper at \$150.
- 1.4 A motion was made and passed to accept the new budget as recommended with modifications suggested by Ron that will be presented at the next Board meeting.

Appointing the next Board:

- 2.1 Vice President position: Mike Hardwick N5VCX was voted unanimously as the next Vice-President
- 2.2 Treasurers Position: Bob Tomlinson N5JSL vs. Stephanie Vessey K5SFV. Bob Tomlinson won 4:2
- 2.3 Michael Monsour ACØTX disavowed the Corresponding Secretary position. Stephanie was contacted whether she wanted this position, she accepted and the Board unanimously voted her in as the Corresponding Secretary.
- 2.4 2yr At Large position: Scott Medbury KD5FBA was unanimously voted in.
- 2.5 1yr At Large position: Daryl Kirk KC5JAR vs. Jo L. Keener KE7NSB The vote is tied. There were positive reviews of both candidates. The Board was polled again and Daryl gained one vote. Daryl Kirk KC5JAR is now the 1 yr At Large representative.

Old Business:

- 3.1 Membership Committee by Nathan Vessey N5NYV report. Need Board approval for an allocation of \$250 that will be rebated back to members that will bring in at least two new members, a kick off for a membership drive. A motion was made and passed to have a membership campaign beginning at the Banquet to last three months. An offer to our membership, who brings in two new members a \$25 one-year membership. Excluded are previous members and family members.
- 3.2 There is a need to get the BVARC banner, flag and place them in the storage locker so that they are accessible.
- 3.3 Hamfest update: Nathan passed out rental costs of the fairgrounds There was talk about the prizes. Need to increase the budget for the main prize. A motion was made and passed to have a Hamfest prize budget of \$2500.

New Business:

- 4.1 There is a deal offering by Ham Threads that will be placed on the Web and reflector.
- 4.2 There is a query to invite the HVRA [Houston Vintage Radio Association] for a presentation at the Hamfest.
- 4.3 December 15 will be the next Board meeting, Monday night 7PM at Fuddruckers. This later canceled in lieu of a telephone poll

Motion adjourned 8:15

Submitted by Recording Secretary, Michael Monsour ACØTX



THE BVARC Rag Chew Net December Check-ins

11/26/14, K5LKJ (NCS), WB5RF, W5TKZ, WS5H, AA0ST (Dickenson), K5LJ, W5RH, KF5HDF, KC5JAR (Katy), AA5OA, KE5OBY (R). (11 Check-Ins)

Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 169, SN = 120, A = 5, K = 1

12/03/14, K5LKJ (NCS), W5TKZ, AA5OA, W5TOM, W5HFF, KE5OBY (R), KF5TFJ, WS5H, KF5OXF (Needville), KE5HDF, K5DAF (Katy) (11 Check-Ins)

Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 154, SN = 146, A = 9, K = 3

12/10/14, K5LKJ (NCS), W5TKZ, W5HFF, K5IZO, W5TOM, AA5OA, K5LJ, KF5TFJ, K0NM, K5WRN, WS5H, AA0ST (Dickenson). (12 Check-Ins)

Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 149, SN = 77, A = 17, K = 2

12/17/14, K5LKJ (NCS), W5TOM, W5HFF, K5IZO, KF5TFJ, W5TKZ, K5LJ, WS5H, AF5T, KF5OXF (Needville), KE5HDF, AA5OA, KR5PHA, KD5FBA.

(14 Check-Ins)

Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 198, SN = 169, A = 8, K = 2

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

Come join in the conversation each Wednesday evening. Regards. John K5LKJ



\$\$ CASH BUYER \$\$

- AUTOMOBILES: ANY YEAR, MODEL, CONDITION RUNNING OR NOT.
(ALSO OLDER VINTAGE/ANTIQUÉ CARS)
- MOTORCYCLES & SCOOTERS: ANY YEAR, MODEL, CONDITION RUNNING OR NOT. (ALSO OLDER VINTAGE/ANTIQUÉ CYCLES)
- ANTIQUES AND WAR ITEMS (CIVIL WAR AND NEWER)
- JEWELRY- GOLD- SILVER- DIAMONDS- WATCHES- COINS
- ALSO REAL ESTATE (HOUSES, FARMS, PROPERTY)
- AND OTHER ITEMS.

PLEASE CALL DAVID @ 713-771-8032 or E-MAIL
MOTOCOLLECTOR@AOL.COM

ALL INQUIRIES CONFIDENTIAL AND PRIVATE

BVARC Historical Vignettes – BVARC’s First Annual Awards Banquet

Allen Mattis N5AFV, Club Historian

Almost every BVARC member knows that January is the month that BVARC has its annual banquet but very few members know when the first BVARC banquet was held. Our club was founded in 1977, but a BVARC awards banquet was not held until 1983. In January 1983, BVARC had 84 members and Dick Bigelow, WD5CTQ, was the outgoing president. The newsletters from that period of time do not state how the idea of an annual banquet came up, but newsletter editor Stu Lamkin, WB5IGG, announced in the January 1983 BVARC Bulletin that beginning in 1983 the club was having a banquet and “the only items of business would be the installation of officers and the presentation of any awards that might be appropriate.”

This first BVARC Awards Banquet was held at the Swinging Door Restaurant on FM 359 about 3 ½ miles west of US 90A near Richmond on January 13, 1983. Members had to obtain tickets prior to January, but the newsletter did not state the cost. The February 1983 BVARC newsletter stated “If you were not one of the 45 who were at our first annual banquet on January 13, held this year at the Swinging Door Restaurant on FM359, you really missed a treat. The food was great, the fellowship even greater! Many of us were delighted to meet other’s YFs (wives), and it seemed to be everyone’s opinion that a banquet for our January meeting each year is a great idea and that they already were looking forward to the next one.” At the end of the banquet, Dick Bigelow, WD5CTQ, turned the office of BVARC president over to Steve Gottlieb, WA5OEN.

Steve Gottlieb provided me with a photograph taken at the 1985 BVARC Awards Banquet showing outgoing BVARC president Ron Bolyard awarding the Order of the Key to Steve Gottlieb, WA5OEN, and Wade Eilers, WN5TEN.



(Left to Right) Steve Gottlieb WA5OEN (1983 BVARC President), Ron Bolyard KA5GYG (1984 BVARC President) and Wade Eilers WN5TEN (1979 BVARC President) at the Swinging Door Restaurant in Richmond, January 1985



Where in the World is
Sovereign Military Order of Malta (1A)
CQ Zone 15



This DXCC entity is unique in that it occupies only two buildings in the city of Rome, Italy. Its headquarters are recognized by the Italian government as sovereign territory. The Sovereign Order of Malta (SMOM) is a sovereign subject of international law, with its own constitution, passports, stamps, and public institutions. The 79th Grand Master, Fra' Matthew Festing, was elected Head of the Order for life on March 11th 2008. The Order has diplomatic relations with 104 countries – many of which non-Catholic – and missions to major European countries, as well as to European and international organizations. The Order of Malta is neutral, impartial and non-political.

While the International Telecommunication Union has granted radio identification prefixes to similar quasi-sovereign jurisdictions like the United Nations and the Palestinian Authority, SMOM has never received one. For awards purposes, amateur radio operators consider SMOM to be a separate "entity", but stations

transmitting from there use an entirely unofficial call sign, starting with the prefix "1A".



SMOM is the modern continuation of the original medieval order of Saint John of Jerusalem and later as the Knights Hospitaller. The group was founded in Jerusalem around the year 1050 as a hospital to provide care for poor and sick pilgrims to the Holy Land. After the loss of Christian held territories of the Holy Land, the order operated from Rhodes (1310–1523), and later from Malta (1530–1798). Although this state came to an end with the ejection of the order from Malta by Napoleon Bonaparte, it retains its claims of sovereignty over Malta under international law and has been granted permanent observer status at the United Nations

Following its historic mission to help the sick, the needy and the most disadvantaged in society, the Order of Malta continues its work today, operating in more than 120 countries. The Order relies on the involvement of its 13,500 members, as well as approximately 80,000 trained volunteers and 25,000 employees, the majority of whom are medical personnel.

According to Club Log, 1A0 is the 121st most wanted DX entity. Most amateur radio activity in 1A comes from DXpeditions in conjunction with the Order's charitable activities. The next planned DXpedition is early in the new year. 1A0C will be QRV from Dec 28th – Jan 6th 2015



Reporting from the Dark Side,
Ron, K5HM.



2015 Club Officers:

President:

Bill Stone, WS5H
dragntow@wt.net

Vice President:

Michael Hardwic, N5VCX
xxxxxx

Corresponding Secretary

Stephanie Vessey K5SFV 2015-2016 Corresponding Secretary
(New)

Treasurer

Robert Tomlinson, N5JSL
rbtswim@gmail.com

Recording Secretary:

Michael Monsour, AC0TX
msirc@wildflower.net

2 Year At-Large Board Member A:

Jerry Muller, KF5EYC
gmuller885@aol.com

2 Year At-Large Board Member B:

Scott Medbury KD5FBA

1 Year Past President Board Member

Darrell Kirk KC5JAR

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
Bayland Park Community Center
Bayland Park, 6400 Bissonnet,

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 (167.9) at 8:00 PM

Advertising in the BVARC Newsletter

Rates are as follows; \$25 per month for ½ page, \$125 for six
months and \$250 for one year. The rates for a full page are as
follows; \$50 per month, \$250 for six months and \$500 for the
year.

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>

01/10/2015 | [San Antonio Radio Club Fiesta](#)

Location: Schertz, TX

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: San Antonio Radio Club

Website: <http://w5sc.org>

02/28/2015 | [Orange Hamfest 2015](#)

Location: Orange, TX

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Orange Amateur Radio Club & Jefferson
County Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.qsl.net/w5nd/>

**03/28/2015 | [Texas State Convention \(Greater
Houston Hamfest\)](#)**

Location: Rosenberg, TX

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.houstonhamfest.org/>



Monthly Publication of the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club.
Serving Amateur Radio for Southwest Houston and Fort Bend County
Club Call sign – KK5W
BVARC Website: <http://www.bvarc.org>
Editor: John Chauvin, K5IZO, k5izo@yahoo.com
Production Team: Cameron Mitchell, K5CAM, k5cam@arrl.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-©-(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 Eldridge Park Conference Center, 2511 Eldridge Rd, Sugar Land, 77478,

. . . General membership dues are \$25.00 per year, with student dues \$10.00 per year, additional family members \$5.00 per member per year and life membership \$250.00.

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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JANUARY 2015

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

FIRST CLASS POSTAGE

No general membership meeting in January – The Annual Banquet takes place in-lieu of it.

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