



BRAZOS VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



AMATEUR RADIO FOR SOUTHWEST HOUSTON AND FORT BEND COUNTY

MARCH 2015

VOLUME 39 ISSUE 3

BVARC MARCH GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

7:30 PM, Thursday, March 12, 2015

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

Look Ma! No Wires!

It's that time again for our annual TDXS BVARC combined meeting. To make the meeting a special one, we will have Nizar Millani, K0NM, of BVARC doing a presentation on remote rig operation. Nizar is one of the local subject matter experts who will make sure that everyone can set-up a remote operation in 5 minutes or less. Make sure you come out and learn the finer details of remote rig operation.

February Meeting Recap - See, I told you he didn't look like Flo

Bob Hawkins, KD5AT, brought his worldly expertise about the insurance world to the club at the February meeting. He explained how I really do not need to insure my old Allied super regen receiver but I should insure the three repeaters in my garage. If you missed out, contact Bob and he will be glad to fill you in on the ins-and-outs on insurance for amateur radio. Editor's Note: See a more detailed article in this newsletter.

January/Banquet Meeting Recap – Lots of food and friends

The BVARC annual banquet was really a great time for everyone. Due to a loss of electrons, the article did not make it to the newsletter last month. The lost electrons have now been found and have been arranged into the wonderful recap of the banquet and everything that happened that night. So make sure you search through the newsletter for the article and the unique way the electrons have been arranged. Ed. Note: Please see extended article on the banquet in this newsletter.

Upcoming Meetings

Below is a list of the plans for future meetings. Mark your calendars so you will not miss out.

April	Power Line Safety (confirmed)	presented by CenterPoint Energy
May	FCC and Amateur Radio (pending)	presented by Stephen Lee of the FCC
June	ARES, Hurricanes & Ham Radio (confirmed)	presented by Jeff Walter, KD5FGA
July	Satellite Communications – The Inside Scoop	

If there is a program you would like, let me know and I will try to get it set-up at a club meeting.

Come on out to the BVARC meeting for a good time!

73
N5VCX



Editor's Note: Reluctantly, because of space limitations and the need to emphasize the Hamfest, I am delaying publishing the Monday Night Net Updates, the BVARC testing results and the Rag Chew Net articles until next month. Also, some significant formatting had to be changed, with fonts & photos made smaller, and some placements, etc. changed.

Welcome Team BVARC and all Amateur Radio Enthusiasts and operators.

Our Greater Houston Hamfest will be soon upon us and the BVARC Co- Chairman and volunteers hosting the ARRL TEXAS Convention are making remarkable monumental strides for this event. Again I will say this is a Hamfest you will not want to miss.

I spoke to Cookie K5EWJ MSWE Co- chair for our Museum Ship Weekend event 1st weekend in June and the American Undersea Warfare Center AUWC scheduled their BOD on 2-20-15. We hope to get the word on the requests for Seawolf Park radio operations on / near the USS Cavalla and USS Stewart. Ping.....Blip Ping.....Blip we are monitoring the radar and will Pass The Word Hi I when we get conformation of that meeting.

It was mentioned to me many members in our past BVARC meeting made comment of the need for a larger meeting space. Our 2014 BOD last year tried to find better accommodations for a large meeting space but found many problems with date, time frame of meeting and parking requirements. Kip N1KIP may have a great lead for a very nice larger secure meeting location and is working with your 2015 BOD on this project. This is a March agenda Topic and will show results in future BOD minutes posted in our newsletter. Tnx Kip. At this time I would like to remind our members that the BVARC BOD meetings are held the 1st Thursday of every month at the Bayland Park Community Center 7 PM at 6400 Bissonette in SW Houston. Members and concerned guests all are welcome to our open meeting.

Last month I mentioned my best fun in all areas of my participation of Amateur radio is HF DX. As now Navassa Island and Cocos Island Dxpeditons have come and gone I thought to take a peek at Club Log on the internet and found many BVARC members from Technician to Amateur Extra had made contacts. Congratulations to all that did and also fine effort to those who tried to break the pileups in the DX chase. It was a mad house to get um in the log. Interesting to see many BVARC members who show in the Cocos Island log as they only made 15,748 Q's worldwide for the 1 week on the Island.

Set your calendar for the BVARC / TDXS joint once a year meeting in March. These joint meetings for years have been much fun and the presentations are always interesting.

CU soon
73 Bill Stone WS5H



Radiosport Items of Note for March 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 to work states you can't easily find on the bands otherwise.

- North Carolina QSO Party – Mar 1-2
- Idaho QSO Party - Mar 14-15
- Wisconsin QSO Party - Mar 15-16

Mixed Mode Contests

- Russian DX Contest – Mar 21-22

SSB Contests

ARRL Int'l DX Contest SSB – Mar 7-8
CQ WW WPX Contest SSB – MAR 28-29

CW Contests

- Run for the Bacon QRP - Mar 16
- JIDX (Japan) Int'l DX Contest CW – April 11-12

Digital Contests

- DARC (Germany) 10 Meter Digital Contest Mar 8
- EA (Spain) PSK63 Contest – Mar 15

Selected Special Event Activities

- 14th Annual Greater Houston Hamfest Mar 28th
- Pennsylvania Charter Day – Mar 8, WM3PEN – 334th Birthday of Pennsylvania.
- 96th Birthday of American Legion – Mar 14th – K9TAL
<http://www.legion.org/hamradio>
- World Wide Pi Day/ Einstein's' Birthday – Mar 14th N8P Strictly geeky event to the value of Pi, one constant thing in our world and celebrate Albert Einstein. qsl.net/kd8dku
- 70th Anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge Mar 22nd , OT70BULGE

And The Ever Popular . . .

- Bluebird and Blue Grass Festival Mar 28 WX4BCA, Jackson, GA. Butts County Emergency Communications Auxiliary.

For details on every Special Event in March, go to
http://www.arrl.org/special_events/search/page:3/Date.start:2015-03-01/Date.end:2015-03-31/model:Event

Reporting from the Dark Side,

Ron, K5HM



Board Meeting – As this newsletter goes to press, the minutes are not available .



The Greater Houston Hamfest Needs Your Help!

Well, we did it. YOUR hamfest committee has put together a blockbuster Hamfest..

- ARRL Texas State Convention Host
- Great Program
- Nobel Prize Winning Speaker
- New Features
- More Great Prizes
- Longer Hours
- Sold Out Tables
- Food Trucks

- **But, we are not finished yet. To insure that the hamfest is a success, we need volunteers!**

Remember - Proceeds from the Hamfest pay for many of the activities that BVARC sponsors throughout the year.

So now it's time for you, the 200 plus members of BVARC to help us out. If you already volunteered, thank you,

We are still short of volunteers. We need more folks to step up and volunteer an 30-60 minutes of their time for some simple tasks (watching doors, taking tickets, front gate duty, tailgate area, speaker assistants, set up, tear down, etc).

If you can give us a little of your time at the hamfest, go to www.houstonhamfest.org and click on the Volunteer box (Click Here to Volunteer).

Or send me an e-mail to this e-mail address k5hm.ron@gmail.com.

Ron K5HM, [Hamfest Volunteer Wrangler](#)



\$\$ CASH BUYER \$\$

- AUTOMOBILES: ANY YEAR, MODEL, CONDITION RUNNING OR NOT.
- (ALSO OLDER VINTAGE/ANTIQUA CARS)
- MOTORCYCLES & SCOOTERS: ANY YEAR, MODEL, CONDITION RUNNING OR NOT. (ALSO OLDER VINTAGE/ANTIQUA 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

2015 BP MS150 Bike Tour Amateur Radio Volunteer Information

Do you think you can handle emergency communications for a large incident? Can you quickly install your radio equipment into emergency vehicles to help provide communications disasters? If you would like to find out if you have the "right stuff" and learn how to be better prepared for emergency communications then sign up to help with event communications for the 2015 BP MS150 Houston to Austin Bike Tour. Amateur radio communications provided reliable and needed communications for the entire 2-day bike ride that has over 13,000 riders. Operators are assigned at many locations along the route relaying important radio traffic between the Houston Command Post and event officials. Some of the positions that need communicators are:

- **Break points** – Providing communications for supplies, medical problems and SAG control at break points on the route. – This can be just a few hours to a full day commitment. It is dependent on the location.
- **Medical vehicles** – Operators ride in First Responder vehicles for emergency medical communications during the event. – **This is 2 day commitment**
- **MS150 Staff** – Operators ride with MS150 staff to provide communications for important issues and problems during the ride. – **This is 2 day commitment**
- **SAG vehicles** – Provided communications for the SAG drivers who are on the course picking up riders that have mechanical problems or that can no longer ride. – **This is 2 day commitment**
- **Supply Trucks** – Provide communications for the supply trucks so supplies can be routed to the needed locations to deliver supplies and materials. – **This is 2 day commitment**
- **Houston Command Post** – The command post interacts with medical incidents, and other problems on the ride. The command post monitors the ride on VHF and UHF amateur bands. Medical vehicles are tracked with APRS and commercial tracking units along the entire course and the information is relayed to the course medical coordinator. The command post is set up to receive calls from event personnel and emergency services along the route through an 800 telephone number to coordinate emergency calls and situations. - This can be a one hour commitment to two days. The command post is open from noon Friday to midnight Sunday so many operators are needed to fill this long time period.

Amateur radio volunteers need a minimum of a dual band VHF/UHF radio that has a minimum of 25 watts output and a gain type magnetic mount antenna (1/4 wave antennas do not work). If assigned to an event vehicle, you must be able to easily transfer between vehicles since assignments do change during the event. Food and sleeping areas (bed linens not provided) are provided for volunteers along the route on Saturday and Sunday by the NMSS organization. A secure parking area will be provided for your vehicle in Houston or Austin if needed. Transportation is available back to Houston for the volunteers that are assigned to event vehicles.

Volunteer hours begin at **4:00 am sharp on Saturday morning and will end between 8 and 10 pm on Sunday**. If you would like to volunteer or find out more information, please go to <http://bpms150hams.org> or call Mike Hardwick, N5VCX, at 713-826-6917 or Charlie Matthew, N0XFD, at 713-498-9802.



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
Car Alarms-Radar Detectors- Bluetooth Hands Free Phone Kits-IPOD Integration

Eddie - NU5K
Dwayne - KB5YTA
Angelo - KF5MJV
Blake - KF5RKJ
Patricia - K5PLR

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

Yes, we can install Ham radio in your car!

BVARC Historical Vignettes – BVARC’s First Roster by Allen Mattis N5AFV, Club Historian

The Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club (BVARC) was founded in late 1977 and the first roster of club members was published in first club newsletter in March 1978. The roster listed 25 members – a far cry from today's 238 members. I took it upon myself to try to learn the current status of these members who founded our club 38 years ago. The roster published in the newsletter is faded and portions of it are not legible.

BVARC's First Roster - March 1978

Name	Call Sign	Current City or Status
1 Jerry Albright	WD5HQU	No current license - Silent Key?
2 Wade Eilers	WB5VMF (Now K5TEN)	Carmine, TX
3 Dale Williams	WD5AJC (Now WD5A)	Richmond, TX
4 Tim Rosen	WB5SGU	No current license - Silent Key?
5 Ed Harwell	W5WVX	Tyler, TX
6 Charles Sloan	WB5KXC	No current license - Silent Key?
7 Stu Lamkin	WB5IGG	Silent Key
8 Joe Dow	WB5WHT	No current license - Silent Key?
9 Jerry Janecka	N5EZ	Gilroy, CA
10 Phil Steinback	WB5SUR	San Angelo, TX
11 Dudley Hurry	WA5QPZ	Cedar Creek, TX
12 Frank Sullivan	WB5ZMZ	Laredo, TX
13 Tom Casey	WA5ACF (now K5THC)	Thornton, TX
14 Jeff Parker	WB5VMD	El Paso, TX
15 John Ellis	W5PDW	Magnolia, TX
16 John Huddleson	K5DL	No current license - Silent Key?
17 Dennis Peely	WB5WHT	No current license - Silent Key?
18 Lee Murrh ?	WD5CID	No current license - Silent Key?
19 Dick Hagerman	WB5SRN	Houston, TX - BVARC member
20 Bill Smith	WB5VME	No current license - Silent Key?
21 Henry Fredenurg	N5HF	Tallahassee, FL
22 Larry Kimane	WB5KIH ?	Status unknown - Call sign not legible on roster
23 Richard Smith ?	WD5GYD	No current license - Silent Key?
24 Ray Kelsey	WD5DKX ?	Status unknown - Call sign not legible on roster
25 Doug Broussard	WB5RAN	No current license - Silent Key?

Note: ? indicates complete name or call sign not legible

A search of QRZ.COM indicated that ten of the founding members no longer hold an amateur radio license issued by the Federal Communications Commission and it is possible that many or even all of them are silent keys. One founding member, Stu Lamkin, WB5IGG, is a silent key. Eight of the founding members have moved out of the Houston area but still live in Texas, and two of the founding members have moved out of state. Two of the founding members still live in the Houston Metropolitan Area. Dale Williams, WD5A, lives in Richmond, and Dick Hagerman, WB5SRN, lives in Houston and is the only founding member that is still a member of BVARC.

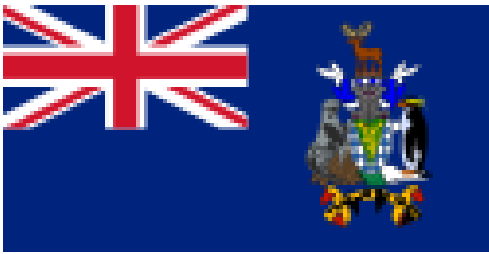
Current Status of BVARC's March 1978 Members

Current Status	Number of Members
No current license - Silent Key?	10
Live in Texas outside of Houston Metropolitan Area	8
Status unknown - Call sign not legible on roster	2
Moved outside Texas	2
Live in Houston Metropolitan Area	2
Silent Key - Stu Lamkin WB5IGG	1
Total	25

The status of two of the founding members is not known because their call signs are not legible on the roster. The roster was typed on a manual type writer that was in need of a new ribbon, and there were also typographical errors in several of the names and call signs. If anyone has further knowledge regarding the status of these founding members of our club please contact me so that I can update my records.

Where is the World is . . .
South Georgia (VP8G), IOTA AN-007
South Sandwich (VP8S) Islands, IOTA AN-009
CQ Zone 13

Wow, do I really want to visit here? South



Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands are a British overseas territory in the southern Atlantic Ocean. It is a remote and inhospitable collection of islands, consisting of South Georgia and a chain of smaller islands known as the South Sandwich Islands. There is no native population on the islands; the present inhabitants are the British Government Officer, Deputy Postmaster, scientists, and support staff from the British Antarctic Survey who maintain scientific bases, as well as museum staff at nearby Grytviken.

Captain James Cook made the first landing and claimed the territory for the Great Britain. He named it in honor of King George III. Throughout the 19th century, South Georgia was a sealers' and whalers' base until whaling ended in the 1960s. Captain Cook discovered the southern eight islands of the Sandwich Islands Group in 1775. The islands were tentatively named "Sandwich Land" by Cook in honor of John Montagu, 4th Earl of Sandwich, First Lord of the Admiralty. A little sucking up there, since Cook was a mere Captain in the Royal Navy. The word "South" was later added to distinguish them from the "Sandwich Islands", now known as the Hawaiian Islands.



The United Kingdom claimed sovereignty over South Georgia in 1775 and the South Sandwich Islands in 1908.. Argentina claimed South Georgia in 1927 and claimed the South Sandwich Islands in 1938. The Argentine claim over South Georgia contributed to the 1982 Falklands War, during which Argentine forces briefly occupied the island. The climate is classified as polar, and the weather is highly variable and harsh. Typical daily maximum temperatures in South Georgia at sea level are around 32 °F in winter and 46 °F in summer. Precipitation in South Georgia, much of which falls as sleet or snow, is possible in any month.

The South Sandwich islands are uninhabited. And why not? From Jennifer Holland of National Geographic: " Pack ice holds the islands in a vise grip most of the year. You can hear the roar from crowded bird colonies and smell the reek of their guts and waste coating rock and ice. Exploding waves beat surfing penguins bloody against the cliffs and block ships from shore."

What a great place to operate from but don't take my word for it. Check out the video from VP8SSI in 1992.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d5B2oo9-Sjw>



A new DXpedition from the Intrepid DX Group is organizing for an Antarctic summer visit to these desolate place late in 2015 or early January-February.2016 .

Reporting from the Dark Side,
Ron, K5HM

The Radio Hotel - The Antenna – Part 2 – The Recipe by W5RH

The best place to start learning about antennas is with the dipole and knowing that the smallest antenna that is resonant is $\frac{1}{2}$ wavelength long – electrically¹. The dipole is the basic building block of most “standing wave”² antenna systems. Some systems use only half of the dipole (i.e. ground mounted vertical), others use extended length dipoles or multiple, independent dipoles to achieve what is desired. Orientation, feed point location and height all play into the system performance.

Compare designing, building and using an antenna to making a cake. When you bake a cake you need raw ingredients (flour, sugar, eggs, etc.). When building an antenna you also need “The Raw Material”, aka Basic Characteristics -- wires/elements of a resonant length and a feedpoint Z/Radiation Resistance that matches your chosen feedline’s Characteristic Z

“The Recipe” then defines how you are going to put the ingredients together. Are you making a cake, or a pie, or scones? Depends on how you put them together and in what quantity. On the antenna we can use these Controlling Characteristics to vary the current distribution, the polarization/orientation and the height above ground. Are you making a repeater antenna, or a NVIS, or an antenna for DX (low main lobe launch angle)?

How you physically configure the wire/element along its’ length, where you feed it and how you orient it will determine the last group -- Performance Characteristics. “The Raw Material” and “The Recipe”, all factor together to correlate into making “The Cake” -- the desired radiation pattern, gain and angle of radiation of our desired antenna system. In brief:

- Basic Characteristics – The Raw Material
 - Resonant length
 - Feed Z (Impedance) /Radiation Resistance
- Controlling Characteristics – The Recipe
 - Standing Wave Current Distribution
 - Polarization
 - Height Above Ground
- Performance Characteristics – The Cake
 - Gain and gain pattern
 - Angle of (primary) radiation lobe

Knowing what you want to do with an antenna is the main factor when starting to design an antenna system. Knowing what the antenna system is going to give you, performance wise, and what it will present to you feedpoint wise, etc. comes from your personal knowledge base built up by studying and working with antennas over time. Antennas are fun to learn about, build and use. There are as many different antennas and systems as there are stars in the sky (a slight hyperbole). To get a gist of the many antenna types, read the article on the www.bvarc.org **Tech Articles** web page – “Antenna Adjectives – Words Aplenty”. Enjoy the journey down the path of antenna system enlightenment.

Next month: **The Antenna - Part 3 – “Resonance, Feed Z and Standing Waves – Oh, My! “**

*Notes: 1-- The key term is “electrically” -- there are short dipoles – physically, but all are at least $\frac{1}{2}$ wl long “RF-wise”
2-- Standing Wave antennas versus Traveling Wave antennas (Rhombics, Beverages, etc.) – Google the difference*

*The purpose of **The Radio Hotel** is to give you a practical kickstart into exploring the workings of antenna systems. It is a series, so go back and read the previous columns to get the whole picture, as one month relies on the previous month’s information . Google the buzz words and find out what they mean. Read up on antenna system theory to see how it all works together. You will be glad you did.*



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.



14th Annual
GREATER HOUSTON HAMFEST
Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club
ARRL Texas State Convention



Saturday, March 28, 2015 - 8 am – 3:30 pm

Tailgate Sales start at 7 AM

<http://www.houstonhamfest.org>



Featured Speaker: Dr. Joe Taylor, K1JT, Nobel Laureate and originator of Weak Signal digital modes, including WSPR and WSJT for UHF/VHF and HF Communication.

Keynote Speaker: Norm Fusaro, W3IZ, ARRL Membership & Volunteer Programs “Logbook of The World”

New! - CW Pile Up Contest – How well can you copy code in a pileup?

Great Tech Sessions all Day

- **Remote Station Operation - 3 Different Styles - Demo & Round Table**
- **DSTAR Operation in Emergencies – When All Else Fails?**
- **Don’t Roll the Dice – All about insurance for your station.**
- **QRP/Portable Operations with the FT-817- Take a walk in the park**
- **South Texas Balloon Launch Team – Ham Radio to the Edge of Space**

Prize Drawings: Tickets \$1 each, 7 for \$5

[Special Promotion! – Bring this Flyer to Hamfest; get 1 Extra Raffle Ticket Free!](#)

GRAND PRIZE

NEWLY RELEASED FT-991 ALL-BAND, MULTIMODE PORTABLE TRANSCEIVER



Provided by Houston Amateur Radio Supply

Chairman’s Prize

MFJ-225 HF/VHF TWO PORT GRAPHIC ANTENNA ANALYZER



Provided by River Oaks Car Stereo

Tables Sales - They’re going fast!

Sales and Selection available On-Line: All Tables - \$15

5 or more tables receive 2 free admissions. Electricity available to pre-registrants (\$5 total).

On-site registration – electricity as available. Set-up available: Friday 3-7 PM, Saturday 6-8 AM

<http://www.houstonhamfest.org>

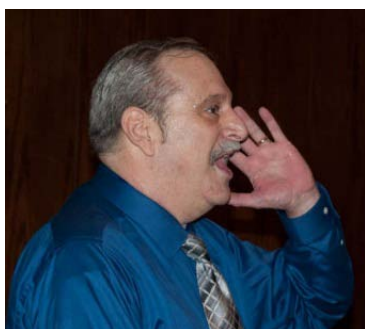
Admissions: Advance - Pre-paid Tickets until March 14, 2015 - \$8; includes 2 Prize drawing tickets. At-Door: \$10 – Includes 1 prize drawing ticket. Scouts in uniform & Children under 14 Free! Tailgate \$5 per vehicle.

If You Build It, They Will Come Ron Litt K5HM, Banquet Chairman



And so they came, to the BVARC Annual Award Banquet. 70 members, family friends, significant others and spouses at Maggiano's on Post Oak in the Galleria on Friday evening, January 16th. The food was great, the room was great and the chocolate cake was to die for.

It was a night for remembering the things BVARC accomplished in 2014 and the fellowship for which ham radio is so famous. It was also a time to recognize those who helped run the club and the events it sponsored. Did I say the food was great?



The evening began with music. Okay, it was a tape. And a slide show of photos from the previous year. Mixed with some appetizers, a little wine, made for a smooth beginning. BVARC President, Bill Stone made a brief welcoming comment, sans microphone. Then came the food, served family style. Did I mention the food was great?

The Banquet committee searched far and wide for a speaker. We tried for Dr. John Lienhard, from U of H but his fee was almost the same as the cost of Dinner for 70. Then I called my old buddy Ralph, the Greatest Elmer of all time. "You're on your own kid." Everybody was a kid to Ralph. He is so old that Marconi was his first Elmer. "I have an emergency club meeting that night."

In desperation, Rick suggested we ask KPRC-TV's Dominique Sachse. I objected to that choice on the grounds that she had no technical credentials. She's not a tech person", I said. Rick stared back at me with a look that said, "Are you kidding? Who cares? Our efforts at KPRC were futile though as her area, of expertise was limited.



My wife Linda, who most of you know is not a ham but enthusiastically supports my hobby. "I will always know where you are...dear", nominated herself. After a brief preview of her concept, I signed her up. She was great and after the opening statement she held the audience in rapt attention. "Does anybody know what a K3 cost?" Several suspiciously motivated friends shouted out inflated answers to that one. Did I mention the food was great?

After dinner, we moved on to door prizes served with desert and coffee. I'd like to believe there was something for almost everyone. Did I say the chocolate cake was to die for?

After the door prizes, I turned it over to President Bill Stone who handled the awards. A list of the award winners follows this article. Bill's most popular awards were the ones he gave to the spouses who put up with us.

I need to thank everyone who assisted in bringing this party to a successful conclusion, Especially Rick Hiller, W5RH. He put together the photos and music program and for his help with the centerpieces and set up. He was my Elmer for this event. To Bill, WS5H who gave me free rein to run with the Banquet and for his selection and presentation of the awards. To all the Banquet Staff at Maggiano's, who were so easy to work with.

There are some great photos from the evening on the web. They're at <http://www.bvarc.org/photos.php?year=2015&event=banquet>

Did I say the food was great?

Reporting from the Dark Side,
Ron, K5HM

BVARC 2014 Banquet Awards



BVARC Service Award Winners

Order of the Key - Bob Tomlinson N5JSL

Loop and Zepp – Roy Storey W5TKZ

K1JT VHF Award

Pump Fawcett WA5CYI
Robert Polinski KD5YVQ

BVARC Special Service Recognition

Michael Wrenn K5WRN
Willis Cookie Cooke K5EWJ
Theresa Williams KE5MUX

BVARC Appreciation Award

Glenn Anderson WB5TUF
Mike Davidson N5MT

BVARC Appreciation Award (Women of BVARC)

Norma Stone KE5NDN
Sharon Tomlinson KF5HUF
Stephanie Vessey KF5SFV
Janet Wrenn KJ5WRN
Suzanne Runner KF5GWZ
Connie Brier KC5VHH
Sandra Gottlieb KC5IWL
Angel Jones KC5KRV
Ann Marie Schaer KD5UJT

Sally B. Sauermilch KE5JKQ

Mahana Paige W5BTS

Anita B. Fawcett WA5JMC

Heather W. MacAllister WB5RMA

Janice Muller

Mary Beth Monsour

Anita Mattis

Anita Kirk

Linda Litt

Adele Mirshak

Priscilla Chauvin

Penny Hiller

Vivian Whiteman

Presidential Achievement Award

Jose Cantor KF5ZAC

Bob Hawkins KD5AT

Jo L. Keener KE7NSB

2015 Club Officers:

President:

Bill Stone, WS5H
dragntow@wt.net

Vice President:

Michael Hardwick, N5VCX
n5vcx@att.net

Corresponding Secretary
Stephanie Vessey K5SFV

Treasurer

Robert Tomlinson, N5JSL
rbtswim@gmail.com

Recording Secretary:

Michael Monsour, AC0TX
msirc@wildflower.net

2 Year At-Large Board K9GEM
gmuller885@aol.com

2 Year At-Large Board Member B:
Scott Medbury KD5FBA
smedbury@windstream.net

1 Year Past President Board Member
Darrell Kirk KC5JAR
darrellk_us@yahoo.com

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 1/2 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>

03/14/2015 | WCARC SwapFest

Location: Georgetown, TX

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Williamson County Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.WCARC.com>

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/>

April 25, 2015, The Pearland Amateur Radio Club (PARC) multi-club tailgate

Location: Pasadena, Texas

See more info in next month's newsletter



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

FIRST CLASS POSTAGE

**March General Membership Meeting – March 12
Greater Houston Hamfest – March 28**

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