



BVARC BEACON



Newsletter of the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club
AMATEUR RADIO FOR SOUTHWEST HOUSTON AND FORT BEND COUNTY

JUNE 2019

VOLUME 43 ISSUE 6

BVARC is Moving!

Beginning on the July 11th, 2019, the BVARC general meeting will be moving to the Sugar Land Recreational Center, 234 Matlage Way, Sugar Land, Texas 77478. Our time has to come an end at the Sugar Land Masonic Lodge due to a cost saving measure as well as a lack of expansion capability. Since there are several locations that we can meet at for free, the Board of Directors decided to end the contract with the Masonic lodge at the end of this year's contract.

The Masonic lodge had been a great place for most of the functions that BVARC has but it has not allowed the expansion that I had hoped for when we moved there. Originally there was talk of the Masons getting involved in amateur radio as well as storage space for equipment. Unfortunately, neither one happened and with a drop-in club income, it was decided to move.

The Sugar Land Recreational Center has more than enough room for the club to meet and should allow the club to have a better meeting since the room is designed for meetings as well as food functions. Both the board and I feel that the new location will be an improvement for the club.

Hope to see everyone at the new location in July.

N5VCX



MUSEUM SHIPS WEEKEND May 31 to June 2, 2019

From May 31 to June 2, the historic ships at Seawolf Park on Pelican Island, in Galveston, will come to life as part of an annual worldwide event to commemorate their service. The destroyer escort USS Stewart will be manned by BVARC hams communicating with over one hundred other historic vessels in the United States, and around the world. Adjoining is the submarine USS Cavalla, which provides an extra claimed ship QSO, for this location. A third ship, the SS Selma, a WWI concrete hulled tanker, will also be activated from the same location. The public may come visit the ships that weekend and observe the action (and amateur radio) during normal Seawolf Park hours of operation.

Two or three operating positions are planned with SSB and CW modes available. Those members volunteering for overnight shifts will be able to sleep in the ship's stern berth.

There will be a main meal onboard the Stewart, on Saturday evening.

Check out the link below for more information on the event and the list of activated ships:

<http://www.nj2bb.org/museum/>

To sign up for a shift(s) or obtain more information, contact Mark Janzer – K5MGJ at K5MGJ@YAHOO.COM

If not at the ships – work us (and the other ships) on the air – we'll be on the HF bands, mostly on 20 meters.

The Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club is grateful for the enthusiastic support of the Galveston Naval Museum and the Galveston Park Board of Trustees for their permission to be aboard the vessels and use of the park facilities. We look forward to continued future activity. This allows us, in our own way, to honor those who served their country at sea and to support Galveston Parks.

Prez Says

The year is moving fast with summer weeks away. This means we have Museum Ships Weekend, Plano Hamcom and Field day all in just one month. Then we have the Texas City Hamfest, and of course the BVARC Ice Cream Social in August. A busy three months ahead and hopefully everyone will be able to enjoy one if not all the upcoming events.

The first June event will be this coming weekend with Museum Ships Weekend. BVARC has supported this event for many years and everybody that attends has a great time. We will be at Seawolf Park again this year and will be operating multiple stations. Check the website for last minute information on the event which will be coordinated by Mark Janzer, K5MGJ. As always Mark has put many hours in coordinating the event and is doing a great job. If you would like to help and participate, get with Mark and let him know.

The weekend after MSWE will be Plano Hamcom. It is one of the biggest amateur radio functions in the state and we should try and attend and support Hamcom. By supporting this event, it supports amateur radio. I hope to see you there on June 7th, 8th & 9th

Field Day, just two weekends later on June 22nd and 23rd. It will be at the same location as last year at Duhashok Park near the Sugar Land Airport. Get ready for a great place with lots of room. This year we will again have four clubs, BVARC, TDXS, ECHO and KARS working together to bring in a great score and have a great time. We will also have the Fort Bend County Emergency Communications Trailer on exhibit and for the GOTA station. Get with any BOD member and let them know if you would like to help with this great event.

Also don't forget to sign up to operate on Allen Brier's, N5XZ, web site -

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1uVTuo7hwwusEMT4f2jA7dEBtgjdM0hSGgK0khUUXmd0/edit?usp=sharing>

BVARC's general meeting will be moving to a new location. Beginning in July, the general meeting will be moving to 234 Matlodge Way in Sugar Land. Check elsewhere in the Beacon regarding the move.

The BP MS150 was a great success this year again. Even with the lower than normal ridership, the event is on course to raise over \$14 million dollars. For everyone that is not aware of the BPMS150 there are nearly 9,000 riders, over 3,000 volunteers and 100 amateur operators. I really want to thank everyone for their hard work. The event is a great place to learn about emergency communications for ARES and RACES. If you have not worked a public service event, make sure you put it on your list to do in the future. Put your radio and license to a great use!

Last but not least, don't forget June 1st – the beginning of hurricane season. It is predicted that the year will be "normal" but that doesn't mean to get complacent toward amateur radio communications. You should get your station prepared and get connected with your local ARES group. If we have storms like we have in the past, ARES need operators during as well as people operating at home.

Hope to see everyone MSWE and Field Day.

73,
N5VCX

The Quad Club Mega Field Day

Duhacsek Park, Sugar Land, TX

June 22-23, 2019

WHEN?

The Quad Club Field Day is going to be held on the fourth weekend of June. The Dates are June 22-23, 2019. The FD operation starts at 1800 UTC Saturday and ends at 23:59 UTC on Sunday. Antenna setup starts on Friday afternoon and tear down information will be immediately after the last QSO on Sunday. For more information about operating times and rules, click on the Rules link below to the arrl.org web site.

WHERE?

Our Field Day will be held at the beautiful 50 acres Duhacsek Park in Sugar Land. To get there, going north on Highway 6 from Sugar Land, turn left (West) on to Voss Rd The road ends as you cross Old Richmond Rd. at the Park. There is a nice house in the Park with full amenities for the weekend. Mike Hardwick, N5VCX, was able to secure the house and access to the park for antenna erection during Field Day operation. The last Field Day was held there and it worked out great. Bill Cordell, W5VOM is bringing an extra air conditioner to cool the main room. You can find directions and more information about the Park at the following web site:

<https://www.sugarlandtx.gov/Facilities/Facility/Details/Duhacsek-Park-Community-Center-45>

WHY DO WE CALL IT MEGA FIELD DAY?

Most Field Days have one or two or three operating stations. Our Mega Field Day has 10 operating stations plus a separate GOTA station and an Emergency Communication Truck. We will be operating 10 stations simultaneously in three different modes: CW, SSB and Digital. All on generator power.

RULES

The rules for the Field Day can be found at the ARRL web site.

<http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Field-Day/2019/2019-Rules-RevA.pdf>

PICTURES FOR 2018 MEGA FIELD DAY

For pictures of last year's Mega Field Day, click on the link below to the BVARC.ORG web site. You can see the initial setup, antenna erection, operation during FD and tear down. The location is perfect with lots of room for antennas, a nice house with A/C, separate rooms for operators and a great kitchen for food and drinks.

<http://www.bvarc.org/photos.php?year=2018&event=fd>

ANTENNAS

Bill C has once again rented two man-lifts to raise the antennas. One is 60 feet tall and will be used for the CW antennas. The other is a 40 feet man-lift for the SSB antennas. Mike H's antenna trailer is 30 feet and will have the Digital antennas.

Antenna organization and layout is being done by Bill C, Rick Hiller Hiller, W5RH and Dave McCarty, K5GN. Dave is a world-renowned contester and has worked on several super stations with multiple rigs and antennas. He and Bill can usually be found in the man-lift buckets putting up the tri-band antennas for 10, 15 and 20 meters and a two element 40 meter Yagi. Hanging from the bucket will be the 80 meter inverted VEE. Antennas for the SSB and Digital modes will be same as the CW antennas. We hope to have the 6 meter antenna on a push up pole near the house.

Please come on Friday and help us raise the antennas and lay down thousands of feet of coax cable.

RADIOS AND COMPUTERS

We will have 10 Elecraft K3 radios that are known for contesting. Each radio will be hooked up a computer that Glenn brings that is already setup with N1MM program for contesting. All the computers are networked by Glenn Anderson, WB5TUF so that a total score for each mode is displayed on a large TV screen in real time. Glenn is usually helped by Jimmy Vance, W5ZTX to do the setup of the computers. Please volunteer to help with the power and internet connection to these 10 computers and rigs.

FOOD

Daphne Rawlinson, K5VQY Kelli Medbury, KG5QJE and Mike H are in charge of the main meals during FD. This is a major job.

PLEASE volunteer with them to help with the food. Also, DONATE some extra money towards the food if you can afford it. Most importantly, if you have special needs foods, please bring your own.

Come join us even if you just want to see or meet some of your friends. It is a great time to meet the members of other clubs.

Encourage your family members to come and see how you spend your time preparing for emergency communications in case the power goes down, the cell towers get knocked out and the satellites are disabled.

COME AND HAVE FUN.

Editor's Note: **To sign up for an operating spot, go to:**

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1uVTuo7hwwusEMT4f2jA7dEBtgjdM0hSGgK0khUUXmd0/edit?usp=sharing>



Field Day Antenna Presentation and Tours

by Rick Hiller W5RH

June 13th Meeting -- Field Day Antenna Presentation

I will present at the June meeting a short 15 minute analysis and Power Point about the Field Day antenna systems and how they work, in concert, with the K3 transceivers.

Field Day Antenna Farm Tours

If you would like to understand the whys and how's of the specific antennas used at Field Day, I will be giving 2 classes over the weekend. Formal Times are Saturday 1PM and Sunday at 11AM. This tour will cover the newbie questions up to the expert questions. So, come one, come ALL !!!

Questions to Rick -- W5RH rickhiller73@gmail.com



MUSEUM SHIPS WEEKEND "Workday" Report

Another pre-mobilization was conducted on Saturday May 18th. We installed the through deck pigtails for several transmission lines. Thanks to K5IZO, KG5SXG, and N5VCX for all the help!!
We're signing up for the big weekend!



Editor's Note:

This issue of the BVARC BEACON is chock-full-of information. Most of it is on the Museum Ships Weekend and Field Day. Please be sure to read all the information on both events.

Because of the amount of material, the Editor had to do some reformatting of the articles as submitted, even some of those who submitted both MS Word versions for publication and PDF to show how the author desired it to be formatted. Some point sizes also had to be changed. It is believed that the "spirit" of the format was retained, though possibly not literally as submitted.

A special thanks goes out to our President, Mike Hardwick, N5VCX, who volunteered for some of reference information in his "The Prez Says" article to be truncated so all active and other timely material could be included.

The Radio Hotel Field Day -- A Curious, Ham Radio Confluence

by Rick Hiller W5RH

If you have never been to a Ham Radio Field Day, please, make time to come out to the BVARC, TDXS, KARS, ECHO Field Day on June 22nd and 23rd. A lot happens on Field Day. In fact, things are happening now as far as planning for radios, antennas, operators, food, computer logging and many other things. For a large Field Day operation like ours, it takes a lot of gear, coordination and people – neophytes to experts – all are welcome and encouraged to come out and participate in any aspect. One important personal area for you to take advantage of is to learn something new. Lots of opportunity in the learning department. Just extend your introduction and questions to those that know and you will learn.

When I started writing The Radio Hotel 5 years ago I had one goal in mind: “*The purpose of The Radio Hotel is to give you a practical kick start into exploring the workings of antenna systems*” That “practical kick start” is what most Hams need at the beginning of their trek. I know I did. In Ham Radio there are a lot of working parts and putting it all together at times is difficult. That is what Elmers are for. Helping and guiding you through the technical jungle. Even a simple 2 Meter FM or HF station at the house has radios and power supplies and coax and antennas. Plus, all the things that go along with that – finding the perfect room for your shack, getting your spouse’s permission, drilling holes in walls, multiple visits to Home Depot, climbing on your roof, throwing ropes up into trees, etc. All of this for just one single Ham Radio station.

Now, visualize, if you will.....a Ham Radio station with ten (yes,10) HF transceivers connected to multiple dipole, mono-bander and tri-band Yagi antennas with all of the radios and antennas operating at the same time and, get this, all of this gear within 350 feet of each other. These transmitters and receivers are on 5 different bands that are harmonically related – 80,40,20,15,10 Meters. From your license study about harmonics and RFI, etc. you know that there will bound to be RF interference between the different stations due to these harmonic relations and the closeness of the 100 watt stations and antennas to each other. 100 watts is not high power, but with 10 transceivers operating simultaneously, it is certainly enough total RF to cause a few interference issues.

So, what do you do about this interference issue? Luckily, we have experts within the multiple clubs participating that can apply their RF knowledge to alleviate (unfortunately, at times only minimize) these interference issues. A few things can be done:

***Each K3 transceiver** is on a specific band, and it will have a matching Band Pass filter connected to its’ RF/Antenna connector. This filter passes signals, both transmit and receive, within the band but attenuates signals outside the band and, therefore, on harmonically related bands. K3’s analog Roofing (1st i.f.) Filters and DSP Audio filters help dramatically with interfering signals on the same band but different modes.

***Antennas** – antennas are physically separated as much as possible. Signal strength loss thru air is quite high, so this helps a lot. Gain antennas – the two 40 meter Yagi-Udas are separated by 200 feet as are the 3 element tri-banders. Plus, lucky us, in Texas we have no states to work south of us so our gain antennas can point NW thru NE and hit most of the folks we want to work. The “gain producing end” of the Yagi-Udas will not have to point into each other.

***Coaxial cable** has loss and will attenuate the desired signal slightly in the 200 feet runs. We use very good coax so radiation from the feedlines is negligible, providing maximum station isolation.

Putting all of these solutions together makes for a marvelous interference free Field Day so fun can be had by all. Come see how it is done and get on the air with us. Enjoy your hobby. 73...Rick W5RH

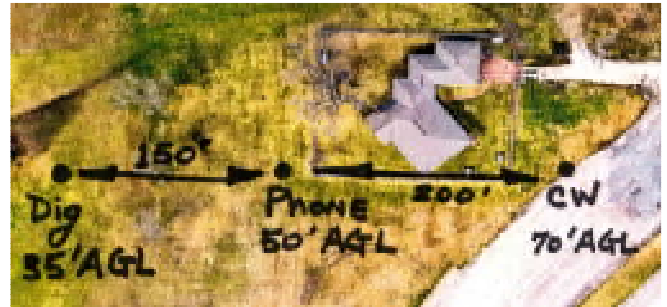
Field Day Antennas and Rigs – An Interactive Dilemma

by Rick Hiller W5RH

The June 13th meeting will have a short, but indepth, presentation on this subject

Visualize, if you will.....a Ham Radio station with 10 HF transceivers connected to multiple dipole, mono-bander and tri-band Yagi antennas with all of the radios and antennas operating at the same time within 350 feet of each other. Now, further imagine how much RF this puts into the air. And as RF goes, it goes everywhere, even where you don't want it to go. This describes the situation at our BVARC/TDXS/KARS/ECHO Field Day.

So, with W5VOM's purposeful and beneficial placement of the towers and antennas (**see the picture**) and with the use of an appropriate band pass filter on each of the 100 watt K3(S) transceivers and tri-bander triplexers, we can all work in concert toward a common Field Day goal with minimal inter-station interference. A semi-detailed view of how and why this interstation interference prevention scheme is implemented follows below.



Field Day Antenna Set-up Plan 2019 (aerial view)

The Simple Field Day Case: Take the 40 meter band for instance, (probably our worst case band). We run Phone and CW on 2 separate 100 watt K3's each driving a 2 element, rotatable, Yagi-Uda "gain" antenna.

Receiver Damage: Now, consider that a 100 Watt output from a K3 is 50dBm (dB in reference to a milliwatt). This is a very, very strong signal for any receiver, so we need to reduce the possibility of such a strong signal getting to the other K3 receiver where it will cause major damage. [FYI -- Damage to a K3 input will happen at a +17 dBm(75 mW) level.] Therefore: We need to have any signal received at a K3 input be less than +17 dBm.

Path Loss: The 50 dBm transmitted signal has a ways to travel before getting to the other K3 and most of the path has loss. From the K3 the RF goes thru the Band Pass filter (.3 dB insertion loss), then 200 feet of transmission line (.5 dB loss), the Yagi antenna (gain forward, but to the side maybe 0 dB) and then the 200 feet of air between the 2 Yagis (about 35 dB path loss – calculated), it is then received by the other Yagi (again, 0 dB from the side), thru another 200 feet of coax (.5 dB) to a band pass filter (insertion loss .3 dB) then into the receiving K3. It is close to +13dBm at that point and just under the damage signal level. Good.

A More Important Signal Level: Now, 40 Meter same band signals for SSB and CW are separated by a frequency delta of about 150 KHz and both receivers have substantial analog, first IF "roofing" filters in place. Plus, the internal steep skirt DSP based audio filters add to that filter attenuation path loss. The spec for the K3 is the "2 kHz Blocking Level" -- meaning, how strong can a close-in signal be before causing receiver blocking (or other distortion). Blocking occurs when the K3 just begins to overload from a signal outside the desired passband (i.e. 400 Hz CW filter). The K3 2KHz Blocking signal level is + 5dBm, still way above the -12 dBm S9 + 60. Thank goodness for that.

Other signal distortions can occur from the Phase Noise and Harmonic production of the transmitter, etc. but with the efficient design of the K3 (both receive and transmit), all of these distortions can be handled more readily these days versus a receiver of 20 years ago. To know more, visit <http://www.sherweng.com/table.html> for the Receiver Rating Chart and the PDF "Terms Explained -- Sherwood Table of Receiver Performance" and read the book "Managing Interstation Interference" by George Cutsogeorge W2VJN

**Where in the World is . . .
Chiloe Island (CE)
CQ Zone 12, ITU Zone 16
IOTA SA-108**

Chiloe is the largest island in the coastal archipelago. To the east, 30 miles from mainland lies Chile; to the west is the Pacific Ocean. Situated in an area of heavy rainfall, the densely forested island is little developed.



Spaniards captured the island in 1567 and it remained the last stronghold of Spanish domination in Chile its struggle for Chilean independence until 1827.

Most of the island's inhabitants live in one of two port cities, Ancud or Castro. They are connected by a road.

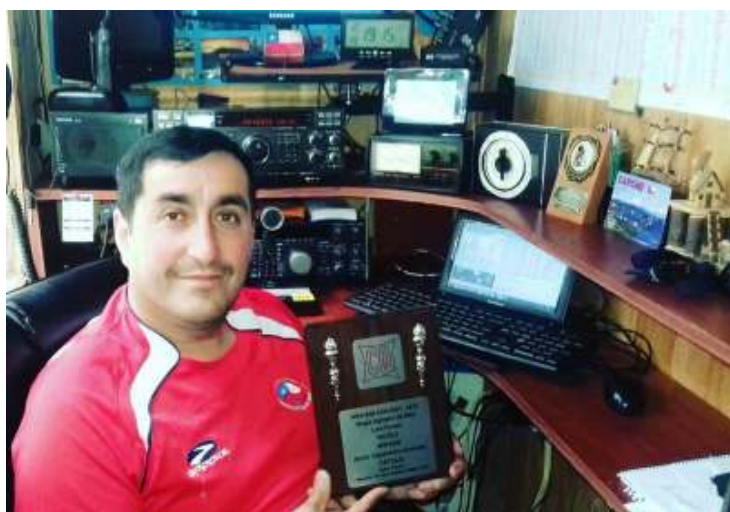
The inhabitants (Chilotes) are engaged in agriculture, fishing, and lumbering. They live in brightly painted houses on the narrow beach. called *palafitos*.

Sometimes the tide is a little higher than planned. Due to the threat of tsunami, the danger of erosion, or rising tides, Chilotes may need to move to a new spot. When they do, their house comes with them. It's a real show, and it's known as a *minga*. Looks like this one could use a paint job too.



Moving a house can be tricky, having been pulled to the beach, the house is deposited below the waterline at low tide to wait for the tide to come in. As Chilote houses are single-story and wooden, they are generally light enough to float and be towed across channels without completely submerging!

Once the tide is in and the house is surrounded by water, it's hooked up to one or more boats, and is pulled at a steady speed through the water to its destination. The house is then floated as close to shore as possible at low tide, hitched to a team on oxen, pulled back onto wooden rollers to finish the job. After the move comes the Paaartey!



Javier, CE7VPQ (above) lives on Chiloe and offers up this rare DX locale during many contests with his contest call, CA7CAQ.

Reporting from the Dark Side
Ron, K5HM

BVARC Rag Chew Net

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

04/24/19, K5LKJ (NCS), W5TKZ, W5TOM, K5LJ, W5VOM, K5JPP, K2MPP, KJ5Y (RCS)(W5FMH/club) (Angleton), KF5EYX, KI6TND. (10 Check-Ins)

Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 68, SN = 0, A = 8, K = 2 / Band Rpt: Fair

05/01/19, K5LKJ (NCS), K5JPP, K5IZO/5 (Jasper), W5RH, K5LJ, W5TKZ, WW5PA, W5VOM, KG5WPE, KF5EYX, WA5ANF (T), KB5OBY. (12 Check-Ins)

Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 67, SN = 0, A = 5, K = 2 / Band Rpt: Fair

05/08/19, K5LKJ (NCS), W5TKZ, K5JPP, K5LJ, W5TOM, W5VOM, KF5EYX, K2MPP, AA5OA (Fort Smith, AR)(T). (9 Check-Ins) Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 78, SN = 27, A = 5, K = 0 / Band Rpt: Fair

05/15/19, K5LKJ (NCS), K5JPP, K2MPP, W5TKZ, K5IZO, W5RH, KF5EYX, KA5GCB (Round Rock), WA5ANF (T), KF5ZAC (T), KG5WPE. (12 Check-Ins)

Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 74, SN = 24, A = 36, K = 2 / Band Rpt: Fair

05/22/19, K5LKJ (NCS), K5JPP, K2MPP, K5IZO, KF5ONT, W5TKZ, W5VOM, W5TOM, K5LJ, AA5OA (Fort Smith, AR)(T), KJ5Y (RCS)(W5FMH/club) (Angleton), N5EKW (Katy), W5HFF, KF5EYX, KG5WPE. (15 Check-Ins)

Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 67, SN = 0, A = 4, K = 1 / Band Rpt: Fair

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

Net conditions have been fair to good this month. Learn what others are doing. Come join in the conversation each Wednesday evening. Regards. John K5LKJ



MAY VE - FCC TESTING SESSION RESULTS

For the Saturday May 4th test session: We had 10 candidates.

New Licensees:

Carleton K. (Technician)
Holmes J. (Technician)
Moseley (General)
Reeber P. (General)

Passed General

KI5EJL
KI5ECY
K5KOS

Passed Extra

KI5EEX
WA5PYY

Note those that walked in without a license and walked out with a General!

One walked in as a Technician and walked out with an Extra license!

Congratulations to all!

A great thank you to the VEs in attendance – K5LJ, N5DTT, K5GOL and AK5G.

Of these testing candidates – 5 are new BVARC members!

Examination sessions are held each month, usually on the same day as the Saturday BVARC Board meeting. These sessions are at the Bayland Park Community Center, 6400 Bissonnet St., Houston TX 77074

Details for candidates are found at www.bvarc.org/home/amateur-license/

Call Mark Janzer, K5MGJ at (832) 875-0526 or eMail: (k5mgj@yahoo.com) to pre-register.

MINUTES
Board of Directors Meeting
Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club

May 4, 2019 9:00 AM
Bayland Park Community Center
6400 Bissonnet, Houston, Texas

Board Members Present:

Mike Hardwick N5VCX (President)
Jon Noxon KF5TFJ (Rec. Secretary)

Jeff Greer W5JEF (Cor. Secretary)

Mark Janzer K5MGJ (V Pres)

Jimmy Vance W5ZTX (1 Yr Director)

Visitors

Randy Pollard AK5G
Michael Monsour AC0TX

Recorded by Jon Noxon, KF5TFJ Recording Secretary

- 1) Call to Order: The President called the meeting to order at 9:44.
- 2) Establishment of Quorum: A business quorum was established.
- 3) Approval of Agenda: A motion made and seconded to approve the agenda.
- 4) Club President's Opening Statement: The President thanked those present for attending the meeting and noted a club VE testing session was on the schedule for today (April 6)
- 5) Emergency Business: Mention made of Jo Keener's deteriorating health condition. Motion to use a new meeting space effective with July meeting passed. Will meet at the Sugar Land Rec Center across from Sugar Land Post Office.
- 6) Approval of Minutes from Previous BOD Meeting: The Board approved the minutes for the April 2019 BoD meeting.
- 7) Approval of Treasurer's Report: The Board tabled approval of the Treasurer's Report (Treasurer was absent).
- 8) Corresponding Secretary: An oral report of status of mailings given and hand off of correspondence directed to Museum Ships Weekend done.
- 9) Old Business:

General Membership Meetings scheduled as follows, with topics not listed to be determined:

June 13, 2019 - ARRL Field Day and K3 training; report on MSWE.

July 11, 2019 – A Skype presentation from off site presenter is planned; topic to be decided.

August 8, 2019 – Ice Cream Social.

September 12, 2019 – TBD.

October 10, 2019 – TBD.

November Chili Supper and elections.

December Home Brew Night..

Status of donations to Stewart (A/C and electrical improvements).

Topics for future meetings.

Status of new member \$5 first year via VE offer to new hams.

Planning for 2020 GHFF; 2021 GHFF will be the 20th anniversary of the event.

10) New Business: TBD

10. Cost Saving Measures: Still looking into this on an on-going item. Awards Banquet and Storage Locker are major expenses.

11. Next BOD meeting date: June 8, 2019

Future BoD dates: (all 2019) Jun 8, July 6, Aug 3, Sep 7, Oct 5, Nov 9, Dec 7 (Possible conflict with Pearl Harbor Event @ Stewart)

12. Comments: A piece of equipment donated to club from estate of SK (via AK5G).

13. Adjournment 10:16

BVARC Monday Night Public Service Net Updates

Don't forget the BVARC Monday Night Net starts at **8 pm** on 146.94 (167.9). The order of check-ins starts 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 Rick, w5rh, if you are interested. Here are recent check-ins with control-ops:

2/11 - 17 - Bill, kg5fqx 2/18 - 14 - Dave, k5ekw 2/25 - 11 - Clint, kf5ndf 3/4 - 14 - Dave, k5ekw 3/11 - 15 - Bill, kg5fqx	3/13/25 - 18 - Clint, kf5ndf 4/1 - 17 - Dave, k5ekw 4/8 - 16 - Bill, kg5fqx 4/15 - 15 - Dave, k5ekw 4/22 - 16 - Clint, kf5ndf	4/29 - 20 - Terry, k5pgf 5/6 - 11 - Dave, k5ekw 5/13 - 17 - Bill, kg5fqx 5/20 - 19 - Dave, k5ekw
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BVARC QUICK STATS

Date	Total Membeship	Newsletters	Life Members
5/24/2019	195	187	70

Today, May 25, 2019 is the day we memorialized our dear friend, Jo Keener, KE7NSB, now silent key.

I was fortunate to have the chance to eulogize Jo at his memorial service. Over the years I knew him, he became very dear to me. Almost like family. For men, friendships happen quite naturally in the context of our activities, hobbies and work. To feel like family takes an other step. That is dropping walls to allow others to see our brokenness and shortcomings. Jo had the courage to allow many of us to know him that well. His transparency is one of the things I admired about him most.

I clearly recall the phone call from Jo when he let me know about his Parkinson disease. I knew his time was short, but I thought it would be a little longer. The shortness of one with terminal illness usually catches me by surprise.

My best memories of Jo speak of one who is faithful, but usually stays in the background. He maintained our patriotism through attention to the flag duty; a consistent hamfest volunteer. His club service was deeper and more consistent than most know. His steady voice on the repeater will be missed as well.

I believe there is one way he would like to be remembered.

Jo was one of the Few, The Proud. A Marine. I pray that his memory last longer than his life. Love ya, Jo.

Bob Hawkins, KD5AT
 May 25, 2019

2019 Officers:

President (2018-2019)
Michael Hardwick, N5VCX
n5vcx@att.net

Vice President (2019-2020)
Mark Janzer K5MGJ
k5mgj@yahoo.com

Recording Secretary (2018-2019)
Jon Noxon KF5TFJ
jon@noxon.cc

Corresponding Secretary (2019-2020)
Jeff Greer, W5JEF
greerj@hotmail.com

Treasurer (2019-2020)
Donovan Balli, KG5BDZ

2 Year At-Large Board Member A: (2018-2019)
Open

2 Year At-Large Board Member B: (2017-2018)
Scott Medbury KD5FBA
smedbury@windstream.net

1 Year At Large (2019)
Jimmy Vance, W5ZTX
w5ztx@gmail.com

Regularly Scheduled 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

The Saturday before the 2nd Thursday, 9:00 AM (For Sept., check website)

Bayland Park Community Center
Bayland Park, 6400 Bissonnet, Houston.

Volunteer Examiner Program

The monthly ham testing session takes place on the same day and location as the BOD Meeting, but at 10:30 AM. However, please check the BVARC website for any last minute changes or updates.

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.

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

(typically within 200 miles of Houston)

Hamfest info for the next few months. More information at:
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests.html#listing>

06/07/2019 | West Gulf Division Convention (Ham-Com 2019)

Location: Plano, TX

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Ham-Com, Inc.

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

07/13/2019 | Swapmeet

Location: Texas City, TX

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Tidelands Amateur Radio Society

Website: <https://www.tidelands.org/>

08/02/2019 | South Texas Section Convention, Austin Summerfest 2019

Location: Austin, TX

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Austin ARC & Texas VHF-FM Society

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

BRAZOS VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

This newsletter, the BVARC BEACON, is a monthly publication of the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club. For a full listing of officers and information about BVARC, please go to www.bvarc.org. Detailed information will be published in the BEACON every 3 or 4 months. Similarly, the "Eating Schedule" will be published every 3 or 4 months unless there is a change.

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

Club meetings are normally held on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Sugar Land Masonic Lodge, 421 Eldridge Rd, Sugar Land, 77478. Check the above website for any possible changes.

BVARC amateur radio testing has resumed. It takes place typically on the Saturday before the 2nd Thursday of each month at 10:30 AM. Location: Bayland Park Community Center, 6400 Bissonnet, Houston, 77074. BEFORE GOING, please check the BVARC website for any changes.

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, see the BVARC website: www.bvarc.org

Other contacts include:

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NOTE: Officers, advertising and eating schedule are on the website. They will only be published in the Newsletter every few months.

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JUNE 2019

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


FIRST CLASS POSTAGE

May 31 - June 2 Museum Ships Weekend

June 8 – Board of Directors Meeting and Amateur Radio License Testing Session

June 13 – General Membership Meeting

June 22 & 23 – Field Day



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