



BVARC BEACON



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

JUNE 2020

VOLUME 44 ISSUE 6

BVARC JUNE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Thursday, June 11, 2020 7:30pm, an online meeting venue will be announced on the website and email reflector. We'll have a presentation by Scott Tilley (VE7TIL) on the lost Zombie satellite he re-discovered and has been able to track and listen to.

We won't be having IN PERSON meetings for at least another month or two. Club Business meetings will be held over a conference call, and Club meetings will not be held in person (Facilities are closed) but we are arranging a streaming meeting.



May (and June) VE - FCC TESTING SESSION (NO) RESULT

We're looking for a testing location, for maybe later in June, to do several make-up sessions. There is a backlog of interest in resuming testing. When we do re-start, we'll be implementing some social distancing – partly dependent on the facility requirements and also to manage the seemingly large backlog of testing candidates. Remote testing is an interesting option, but on investigating it, only one candidate can be proctored at a time, which stretches VE resources and time.

Stay tuned.

When times are normal, 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.



The Prez Says

As this issue goes to press, this material is not available. Please be sure to see the "meeting notice" above and the Field Day Notice on the next page which cites the changes and how BVARC will participate.



Plans and Change of Plans for ARRL Field Day 2020

Submitted by Rick Hiller, W5RH

Our favorite yearly Ham Radio event, Field Day, will definitely take place. But, we are currently under the social distancing advisements of the local, state and federal governments, so the joint mega-club Field Day (BVARC, TDXS, Katy, ECHO) that we typically do, is off the table for this year.

In light of that, individual or even small group efforts are encouraged. That, however, does not affect the Class that you use. Go portable, battery or emergency power, in the park or at your house or use your home station on commercial power. Use whatever class and xmitter count you wish to run.

Note: ARRL has changed two of the rules for this year only.

- 1) **If you choose to run Class D, the rule forbidding you to work other Class D stations has been thrown out for this year. Working from home “class D”....work everybody.**
- 2) **There will be an aggregate “club score” provided in the results. Individual stations are allowed to designate one (1) club that they are reporting for. So even if we work individually, we can combine all our scores into a BVARC score.**

This official announcement came today, May 28.

Find it here: <http://www.arrl.org/news/temporary-rule-waivers-announced-for-2020-arrrl-field-day>

Read all the rules and news from the ARRL at <http://www.arrl.org/field-day>

We will continue to follow any further developments and report any changes to the BVARC membership via the Reflector, the weekly News Blast, the Web page and all of the nets.

Also, stay tuned to our BVARC media outlets for the announcement of **training seminars for Field Day**.....One per week in the month of June.



The Radio Hotel – A Lesson Learned (and Well Taught)--EFHW

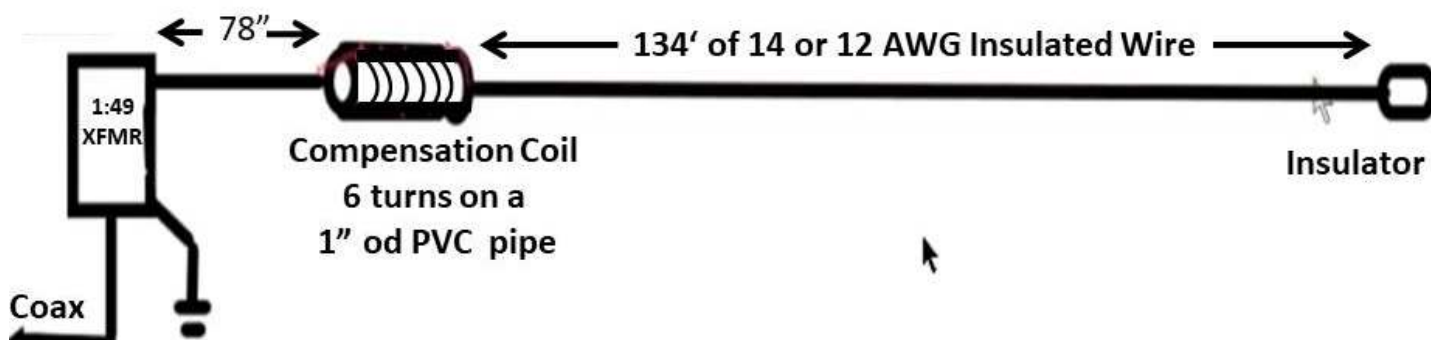
By Rick Hiller – W5RH

I recently participated in an on-line seminar from the ARMG – Amateur Radio Mentor Group. This small group of local Elmering Hams, wants to give back to the Ham community, in light of the many newly licensed hams and also many older hams getting back into the hobby. They feel that a guide to the current (and basic) technology usage would be a beneficial thing.

On April 27th, a Zoom venue'd gathering presented talks about antennas and antenna system parts. View the seminar recording at <http://www.k5wh.net/ARMG/April-27-2020/ARMG-Antennas.mp4> One of the four short presentations (start viewing at 1:33:30) caught my eye – the one on the EFHW – End Fed Half Wave, Multi-band antenna. Steve, N4LQ, gave an excellent introduction to the antenna highlighting its' multi-banding capability and its' ease of construction and deployment.

Drawing courtesy of N4LQ, Steve.

80 To 10 Meter EFHW



I'll give some detail on information watering holes below, but let me tell you the highlights:

Antenna is 140'ish feet long

Fed at the end through a 1:49 impedance matching transformer, which is simple to wind.

Can handle any power level from QRP to full tilt 1KW,

based on the wire and transformer toroid core material size.

An ATU is required, ONLY, if you wish to work,

for example, the full 80 meter band, but this is a special case.

Cost is quite low considering all that it does.

Multi-banding means just that: 80 thru 10, WARC's too. Phenomenal!

Deployment can be varied -- straight, Inv. V, zig zag, sloper, etc.

Check out these on-line links for more detailed information:

www.facebook.com/groups/HalfWaveEndFedAntennas

www.youtube.com/watch?v=0wrN1qhstX4

Gonna have to build one of these myself....very cool! Enjoy your hobby.....73... Rick



BVARC Rag Chew Net

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

04/22/20, K5LKJ(NCS), K5JPP, K2MPP, W5TOM, W5TKZ, W5VOM (M)(R), K5LJ, WA5CYI, AA0ST (Dickinson), W5RH, KK2Z (Burnet), KI5HOC, K5IZO, KL7AX (Katy), WA5ANF (T), K5PGF, KF5PHA, WB4KTF (Austin), W5CEJ, K5HEC. (21 Check-Ins)

Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 70, SN = 0, A = 7, K = 1 / Band Rpt: Fair

04/29/20, K5LKJ (NCS), K2MPP, WA5CYI, K5LJ, W5VOM, W5TKZ, AA0ST (Dickinson), AA5OA (Fort Smith, AR), W5ALW, W5RH, N5OXZ (Harahan, LA), KB7QL (Rustin, LA), WA5FMY (Baytown), W1BG (Katy), WA5ANF (T), KL7AX (Katy), WB4KTF (Austin), NT5SM, KE5VNY. (19 Check-Ins)

Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 69, SN = 14, A = 6, K = 2 / Band Rpt: Fair

05/06/20, K5LKJ (NCS), K5JPP, WW5PA (M), W5TKZ, KI5HOC, KF5PHA, K2MPP, KF5ONT, W5TOM, AA0ST (Dickinson), KE5VNY, W5VOM, K5LJ, KB7QL (Rustin, LA), W5RH, WA5ANF (T), KI5HNY, KL7AX (Katy), K5IZO, K5HEC, N0OHL (Woodlands), K5HM. (23 Check-Ins)

Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 69, SN = 0, A = 6, K = 1 / Band Rpt: Fair

05/13/20, K5LKJ (NCS), K5JPP, K2MPP, W5VOM, K5PGF, W5KJA (Talihina, OK), KB7QL (Rustin, LA), W5TKZ, AA0ST (Dickinson), W5RH, WB4KTF (Austin), WA5ANF (T), K5LJ, KF5PHA, KL7AX (Katy)(M), KC5JAR (Katy).

(28) Check-Ins) Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 68, SN = 0, A = 5, K = 0 / Band Rpt: Good

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

Net conditions have been fair to good this month. Fire up the rig and learn what others are doing and share in their experiences. Come join in the conversation each Wednesday evening.

Regards.

John K5LKJ



Cutting Through the Static – A Column for Newbies

JP Pritchard, K5JPP

Four Years Later: Reflections of a Newby Ham

It's apparently an ancient tradition in amateur radio to refer to another male ham as an OM. Dah Dah Dah _ Dah Dah. Old Man. By the calendar, I am an old man. More than seven decades old. But ham radio has helped to make me feel young again. And if you're new to the hobby, no matter your age, amateur radio has the potential to **keep** you feeling young.

To be sure, I got my first amateur radio license somewhere back in my middle school years. But I didn't have a mentor and I was quickly distracted by more typically teenage interests. And then it was an intense career and raising a family.

So when I found myself approaching OM status (the chronological kind), I followed through on my long time desire to return to ham radio by signing up for an all-day study session at Transtar, passing my technician class license test before the day was done.

I've learned a great deal since then, including enough technical knowledge to get bumped up to Extra Class. But, more importantly, I've learned that I really don't know very much about ham radio.

None the less, here is a summary of a few "all things ham" that have helped me along the way.

1. Being on the air is an adventure. I was actually nervous about it at first, despite a fifty-year career as a professional broadcaster. If you stay humble and courteous, nobody will put you down.
2. Being courteous isn't always as simple as it seems. The first time you tune up and start calling CQ and then hear the curt reply, "hey, we're using this frequency," listening before you transmit becomes an imperative. But you should listen for more than five seconds. Best course is to listen for a minute or so, then transmit your call sign with a polite question, "Is anybody using this frequency?"
3. If you are lucky enough to have an amplifier, in this case a tube amp, tuning the device to join a conversation with other hams should be done three to five khz off frequency. That way the shrill tone you're about to send out while tuning doesn't interfere with the very conversation you want to join. Better yet, do it this way. First step: Running barefoot (bypassing the amp), make sure you've adjusted your antenna system for a matched condition (lowest SWR), probably using an antenna tuner, or with a stepper, the controller. Second step: disconnect the antenna and attach the amp to an appropriate dummy load, subsequently tuning the amp for best/highest output. (At this point, you might want to write down your amp settings for that particular frequency, for future reference.) Third step: disconnect the dummy load and reattach the antenna. Give the amp a final tweak, off frequency, for a short transmission, remembering that you are now on air. Tune back to the desired frequency and you are set to go.
4. For your own satisfaction, learn at least some of the commonly used Q codes so you understand what someone is saying to you during a Q, (short for QSO.) Listen a bit and you'll hear the most commonly used Q signals on SSB – QSL, QRP, QRM, QRZ and QTH among them.

5. Remember to give your call sign every 10 minutes, if not more often. When you are calling a specific person or station, give the other call sign first, like this: "KG5ABC this is K5JPP." Leave an on-air conversation this same way. Other call sign first, then yours.
6. It doesn't say so anywhere in the ARRL reading material I'm familiar with, but it's very clear to me that amateur radio is nothing if it isn't social. It's really a huge, international social/special interest club. I learned early on that, even if it doesn't come naturally, it's a good idea to try to be a sociable person. Join a club, BVARC and/or others. You'll learn a lot from fellow club members, and you'll gain something else that's rare among men – actual friendships. But I always have to remind myself that friendship comes from being a friend, from interacting with others, from participating in group projects. You don't really get to wear that friendship badge unless you're being a friend to others.
7. Go to breakfast or lunch with other hams, and don't be a shrinking violet. I felt awkward asking basic electronic or antenna questions at the weekly IHOP breakfast in the BVARC circle. I soon learned that most hams won't imply you're stupid for asking. But if someone does do that, you can tell 'em where to get off. That also goes with being a friend. Your social life at BVARC will not come to an end if you reply "in kind" to a rude comment. In fact, you'll probably be more respected, in the street sense, as long as your reply deals with the problem, and not the person.
8. Be a helper. Find time to help someone else who's new, maybe just an encouraging word, or lending a hand to an old timer who needs physical assistance with an antenna project or some other effort, even just a ride to some event. And let them teach you while you help them.
9. Don't be too quick to buy the latest gizmo. I am the worst at this. I've got a half dozen gadgets I've purchased after seeing some magic marvel in an ad on-line or becoming intrigued with a friend's latest buy. I expect I'll eventually sell most of those gizmos at some hamfest in the future. Of course, I'll probably be at that same hamfest to buy the gizmos you're selling.

JP, 73, K5JPP



Ham's Elmering Pays Dividends

The story of a young lad, Curtis, KI6ESK, is truly phenomenal. Below is a letter written to the ARRL Foundation as support for an ARRL Youth Scholarship application.

Gentlemen:

I have known Curtis for the past 4 years through Ham radio since he was 14 years old. I am writing this to make the foundation aware of the amazing, life changing, effect that Ham radio has had on this very unusual young man. I was considering just writing the ordinary recommendation letter, but the story that accompanies this applicant is just too unusual. I am compelled to tell the Ham story of Curtis, KI6ESK, at the expense of making this application letter too long.

Unlike most 14 year old Hams, Curtis was not pushed into Ham radio by his parents or friends, he found Ham radio on his own with a computer and Google. Following instructions on QRZ, he soon had his Technicians ticket. Lacking equipment and support from his parents, he discovered Echolink and contacted me because he

thought that, since my name was in my call (W5TOM), he would better know me. Being anxious to help any young Ham, we soon developed an Elmer relation on the computer. Soon he had several Echolink Elmers, VK2AJB, KD6WD, KT4QW, KF6MD, W5AB (CW only for 82 years).

Finally he acquired a 2 meter radio and outside antenna (thinking this was the extent of the hobby) and started taking an interest in the local clubs and civic events. I won't go into this side of Curtis, since his remarkable civic and scholastic achievements will accompany this application.

Now the really significant turn in his life begins. I and his other Elmers kept pushing him into HF radio and teaching him about history and romance of early communications. John Labutski (KD6WD, now a silent key) sent him an old Ten Tec Omni A, HF radio, and I filled out the station including a CW key. KF6MD (a local Elmer) gave him an Outbacker antenna. He eagerly acquired his General license and soon was making CW QSOs with the new rig. He mastered it quite easily. VK2AJB (John), who contacted him on a more personal level, soon found out that he was doing poorly in math at school and that he was classified "Learning Disabled" and put in Special Education classes. John and I were incredulous at the fact that someone who picked up CW so easily could be retarded and bad at math. His parents and the school were convinced that Curtis would lead a life of reduced expectation.

John and I noticed that Curtis was a whiz with the letters in CW, but could not seem to learn the much simpler numbers. It was as if he had a block against anything that had to do with numbers. In fact he was spelling the numbers with letters in some of his first QSOs. Yes, like "five nine nine" and "KI six ESK".

One day I questioned him and found that he had a third grade teacher that diagnosed him as having a "Visual Processing Disorder" and told him that he would NEVER be able to learn math or be able to function normally. Once classified this way, Curtis was in a reduced achievement curriculum for the next seven vital years, and told that he should expect a future in the lower levels of the service industry. Neither his parents nor he questioned the powerful authority of the school.

Through Echolink and Skype, John and I fed him CW numbers, math problems, encouragement, and the necessity to have faith in himself. This quickly reaped positive results. Once he found out that he could learn the CW numbers, the curse against math and numbers was broken. It was truly a CW epiphany. His grades improved rapidly and in a year he was making straight As, however, the school still had him classified as a "Special Education" student. This caused his exceptional college level linguistic skills to have him repeatedly accused of plagiarism. Finally, after a couple of scholarship awards, top grades, the help of a teacher, and a year of effort, Curtis is no longer classified as Special Ed. This victory in this young man's life was the result of all the precepts, values and traditions that Ham radio and the ARRL have been so proud to profess over their long and colorful history.

He will soon graduate and wants to pursue a college education. Ultimately he would like to have a career in aviation communications. Curtis will certainly be a life long Ham that will carry the tradition into the future. You could not possibly choose a more deserving or qualified Ham for this scholarship award, and never one that has already had his life changed so dramatically by Ham radio's essence and values. This scholarship would complete the participation Amateur Radio has had in forming this young Ham's future.

Yours Truly,
Tom M. Morton, W5TOM

Curtis, unfortunately, did not qualify for any funds from the ARRL. He is currently employed by ARINC, in commercial aviation communications, where he holds a management position. He continues with his love of Ham Radio and maintains contact with those Elmers who, thru passion for the hobby, helped a young Ham succeed.

Contest University – May 14, 2020

Virtually presented and now available to all, free

This year's Contest University was online. Only on-line. Usually held in Dayton, Ohio on the day before the Dayton Hamvention*, it was held virtually this year due to the current pandemic situation.

If you did not partake on the day of, you are invited to visit the Contest University web site www.contestuniversity.com, and watch the 10 hour Youtube video or look at/download the individual presentation Power Points.

It is all excellent content presented by some of Amateur Radio's premier knowledge base. My favorite presentations were:

W3LPL – Effective Low Band Receiving Antennas

N6TV – Everything You Need to Know about USB and Serial Interfaces

K1DG – Optimizing your Station for Contest Operations

These 3 presentations are now in my library of Ham Radio presentations. Not that I am a big contester, or even a little contester, but all hams operating HF in any mode can take advantage of the information presented. Presentations on other subjects are excellent too. Check them out.

Also know that files of Contest University presentations back to 2014 are available for viewing and downloading. Enjoy. Rick – W5RH

**Note: the Dayton Hamvention (in Xenia, OH) was cancelled this year)*



Report on our April Membership Drive

Submitted by Rick Hiller, W5RH

If y'all checked into or listened to the Noontime Stir Crazy Net during the month of April, you would have heard the call for new members. You see, back in March we had a benefactor come to us offering to pay 80% of the first year's dues for upwards of 20 "new" members. That meant that 20 folks could get a \$25 membership for \$5. Such a deal.

23 people signed up within the limited time frame and our benefactor agreed to pay for all 23. So 23 brand new members joined our ranks.

The benefactor shall remain, at her/his request, anonymous. But we do want to extend a hardy thank you to them for providing BVARC with the opportunity to expand our membership numbers.

Where in the World is . . .
Pago Pago (KH8)
CQ Zone 32, ITU Zone 62

Yes, there really is a place called Pago Pago. Really. It is a city of about 3,600 and the capital of American Samoa. Not the same as Samoan Samoa, which is about 100 miles to the Northwest. American Samoa is where America's day begins, lying just east of the International Date Line.

The National Park of American Samoa, protects lush rainforest, coral reefs and waters visited by humpback whales. A trail leads up to Blunts Point Battery, a WWII gun site. It is a popular tourist attraction.

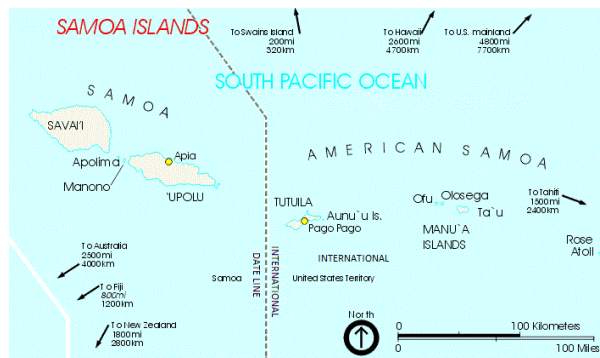


Figure 1 Map of the two Samoas



Figure 2 Pago Pago harbor

Samoa way of life. Pago Pago's villagers have preserved "The Samoan Way," so residents have a strong sense of tradition and observe many of the customs that began with them 3,000 years ago. Traditional meals are eaten while seated on the floor, businesses are closed on Sunday, and nearly all the population primarily speaks Samoan, despite the predominance of English. Samoans are divided regarding the citizenship issue.

Pago Pago has a tropical climate all year round with two distinct seasons, wet and dry. The wet season is usually between December and March and the dry season from April through to September with the average daily temperature around 81–83 °F. Great Field Day weather.

The climate is warm, tropical, and humid. Throughout the year, rain follows clouds blown in by the trade winds that rise from the east almost daily. The mountains of the Pago Pago area, protect Pago Pago Harbor and catch these clouds, bringing an average of 200 inches of rainfall per year.

QRZ.com counts 37 resident hams in American Samoa as of this writing. Recent DXpeditions to KH8 included W1AW/KH8 in 2014 and another supported by W5MJ/KH8 in 2018.

Reporting from the Dark Side

Ron Litt, K5HM

American Samoa consists of three main islands, Tuila (pronounced Too – too – ee -la), Ta'U (pronounced (Tah – oo) and Ofu (pronounced, well I think you can figure it out). The total land area is 76.8 Square mile, slightly more than Washington, D.C. American Samoa is the southernmost territory of the United States and one of two U.S. territories south of the Equator, along with the uninhabited Jarvis Island. Tuna products are the main exports, and the main trading partner is the United States. Both Star-Kist and Chicken of the Sea have canneries here. Pago Pago provides direct passenger service to Hawaii.

...
The Tripartite Convention of 1899 partitioned the Samoan Islands into two parts: The eastern island group became a territory of the United States in 1900. People born on American Samoa are considered American nationals, but they do not have automatic U.S. citizenship at birth. Some Samoans fear that automatic citizenship will destroy the



Figure 3 Downtown Pago Pago



MINUTES
Board of Directors Meeting, May 2020
Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club

The editor has no info on the meeting which, if held, almost certainly done via Zoom. If information is available, it will be included in next month's newsletter.+



MUSEUM SHIPS WEEKEND 2020

MSWE has been canceled worldwide for 2020. Normally, the historic ships at Seawolf Park on Pelican Island, in Galveston, come to life as part of an annual worldwide event to commemorate their service. The destroyer escort USS Stewart is 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, would 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.

As for current status of the Ships, the Stewart is currently undergoing asbestos remediation, much of which in the areas we have been operating. As a result (separate from the Covid closing) the Stewart is closed until the remediation is complete. The Parks board closed the ships to the public (Covid related) and the Galveston Naval Museum has been trying to get access for their remediation contractor to complete the work during this down time.

Check out the link below for more information on the event: <http://www.nj2bb.org/museum/>

Also the website for the Galveston Naval Museum: <https://www.galvestonnavalmuseum.com/>

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 continuing future activity. This allows us, in our own way, to honor those who served their country at sea and to support Galveston Parks.



2020 Officers:

President (2020-2021)
Michael Hardwick, N5VCX
n5vcx@att.net

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

Recording Secretary (2020-2021)
Jon Noxon KF5TFJ
jon@noxon.cc

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

Treasurer (Finish 2019-2020 term)
David Ely, N5EKW
Davidely@prodigy.net

2 Year At-Large Board Member A: (2020-2021)
Rick Hiller, W5RH
Rickhiller73@gmail.com

2 Year At-Large Board Member B: (2019-2020)
Scott Medbury KD5FBA
smedbury@windstream.net

1 Year At Large (2020)
JP Pritchard, k5JPP
jppnews@comcast.net

Regularly Scheduled Club Happenings:

General Meeting

Second Thursday each month, 7:30 PM
Imperial Park Sugarland Recreation Center at
234 Matlage Way, Sugar Land TX, 77478
Due to COVID-19, as this goes to press, the meeting will be held
online. Check www.BVARC.org for more current info.

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.
Due to COVID-19, as this goes to press, the meeting will be held
online. Check www.BVARC.org for more current info.

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.
Note: As this issue goes to press, the meeting location is closed due
to COVID-19. Please check the www.BVARC.org for 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

SPECIAL NETS during these COVID-19 times:

A breakfast net is held on Saturday mornings and a "Stir Crazy" net
is held each weekday at noon. Check www.BVARC.org for current
info.



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

**Note: Due to COVID-19 most eating events are
cancelled until further notice. Check www.BVARC.org
for more current info.**

SATURDAY MORNING BREAKFAST

IHOP, 7:00a.m., SW Freeway inbound service road,
near Kirkwood. A modified version of this has resumed.
We are let into IHOP, but we must wear masks (except
while actually eating) and must stay at least 6 feet
apart. We still have the back room pretty much to
ourselves, so come over and have that scrumptious
food that we all love.

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>

06/12-13/2020 - HAM-COM

Plano TX Convention Center. - **CANCELLED**

<https://sites.google.com/hamcom.org/ham-com>

07/11/2020 - Swapmeet

Location: Texas City, TX

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Tidelands Amateur Radio Society

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

As this issue goes to press, the Texas City Swapmeet is not
yet cancelled. Please check their website to get updates.

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 Imperial Park Sugarland Recreation Center at 234 Matlage Way, Sugar Land TX, 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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Cameron Mitchell, K5CAM, k5cam@arrl.net ; Mike Teers, KG5SXG, miketrs@windstream.net

JP Pritchard, K5JPP, jppnews@comcast.net; Esther Pritchard, elop@comcast.net

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 2020

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P.O. BOX 2997
SUGAR LAND, TX 77487-2997
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

FIRST CLASS POSTAGE

June 11 – Virtual Monthly Meeting via Zoom. See the meeting notice citing the details.

June 27-28 – Field. See the article citing special provisions.



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