



BV ARC BEACON

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



APRIL 2023

VOLUME 47 ISSUE 4

April General Membership Meeting notice:

Thursday, April 13, 2023, 7:30 PM

Community Fire Department community center, 16005 Bellaire Blvd.
It will also be in Zoom. Look for the details in the BVARC Reflector as the date approaches.

The featured speaker will be Terry Leatherland, K5PGF
Topic: Stealth Antennas for HOA Properties or Hiding 6 Element Yagi in a Palm Tree.



The 2023 Greater Houston HamFest A Huge Success!

Trying to write a wrap-up on the Greater Houston HamFest is difficult to do. There were so many people and groups that were responsible for the success of the event. For now, though, I would like to thank the following:

Eddie Runner John Chauvin Michael Manciaz Jeff Greer Dave Ely JP Prichard Mark Janzer

These seven people really kept the planning on direction and to a successful conclusion. Without them, there would have been either no event or a much smaller one.

I know am missing several people that were responsible for the success of the event. I am planning for next month's newsletter to have a full list of all the people that were responsible. Again, thanks to everyone for their hard work.

Some of the high points of the 20th Anniversary Greater Houston HamFest are:

First time for GHF to be two-day event	Over 1300 people attended over two-days
Nearly \$7K worth of prizes given away	Over 2000 raffle tickets sold
Ham Radio Outlet attended the event	Largest volunteer staff ever for the event
All tables (but 2) sold before opening day	Multiple YouTube video groups attended.
Five balloon launches	And (my favorite) Ice Cream was available

And the main prize winners were:

Grand Prize – Yaesu FTDX-10 – Michael Hooper, W5MWJ
Second Prize – Yaesu FT-891 – David Cantrill, K5DLD
Third Prize – Yaesu FTM-300DR - Thomas Walter, no call, Austin

The only way I can wrap up the info about the Greater Houston HamFest is the following:

**After many months of hard work by the largest volunteer group for GHF, that effort paid off.
After many hours of discussion and “cussin” by the coordinators, that effort paid off.
An unbelievable mountain of issues was present from COVID to rising costs for the facility,
to planning for a two-day event, the GHF was truly an event that faced unbelievable odds.**

Having said that, all that means is – **Full Steam Ahead for the 2024 Greater Houston HamFest!**

The Prez Says

Let's start with one topic that may be on everyone's mind – The Greater Houston HamFest. This will be short and sweet – The GHHF was a great success hands down! This year was truly one to remember with one of the largest turnouts ever. With the support of over seventy-five volunteers, you could not have asked for a better event. There is a more detailed article elsewhere in the Beacon but the main point for GHHF – A Great Success!

Over the next few months, the general meeting will have a wonderful selection of topics. All the meetings will be held at the Community Fire Department community center, 16005 Bellaire Blvd. The doors open at 7:00 pm with the presentation/Zoom starting at 7:30 pm. I am not sure what food will be served on April 13th, but I think it will have something to do with tortillas and the word taco. The programs for the next few months are:

Thursday, April 13 th	Terry Leatherland, K5PGF	Stealth Antennas for HOA Properties or Hiding 6 Ele Yagi in Palm Tree
Thursday, May 11 th	Mark Janzer, K5MGJ	Museum Ships Weekend and Mobilization Party Planning
Thursday, June 8 th	Kori Rahman, WX5KR	Field Day Planning and Prep
Thursday, July 13 th	Walter Holmes, W5WH	Digital Modes (and a little info on the South Texas BLT)
Thursday, August 10 th	BVARC Ice Cream Social	Get Your Spoon Ready!

Besides a very active general meeting program, there are several other events coming up – Brews with BVARC, POTA, and New Ham Session. Dates and times for these events are posted on the BVARC web site so please come out and visit.

BVARC also has a highly active VE Program. If you would like to get involved with amateur radio license testing, give Mark Janzer, K5MGJ, a call. I know he is always looking for a few more VE's to help with the testing.

With all the weekday traffic on 94, there has been conversation about having other NETS, especially on the weekend. At the beginning of the COVID 19 lockdown, Rick Hiller, W5RH, started a Saturday morning HF net in lieu of the Saturday morning breakfast. The Saturday morning HF NET did not last unfortunately but that as a possible steppingstone for more NETS, I came up with ideas on a couple of different NETS that could be started. Below is a list of NETS times and ideas.

Sunday	7 pm	146.94	VHF Net	Info Net – What did I do this weekend to survive?
	8 pm	3910 +/- 3	HF Net	For the people that cannot make Wednesday's HF net
Tuesday	8 pm	28.488	HF Net	10-10 Net Encourages 10M use & do a roundtable.
	8 pm	146.94	VHF Net	Copy of 75m net ops that do not have privileges/ equip.
Thursday	7 pm	146.94	VHF Net	Trivia – All kinds – Radio, Cars, Guns – hardware related
Friday	7 pm	146.94	VHF Net	Movie/TV Net – What I am watching this weekend
Saturday	7 am	3907 +/- 3	HF Net	Breakfast Net
	2 pm	7285 or 14.285	HF Net	QRP

So, what do you think? Let me know what ideas you have.

Last but not least, I want to thank everyone who helped at the Greater Houston HamFest. Without their hard work, GHHF would not have happened. So, hats off GHHF committee and a job well done! Mark March 1st and 2nd, 2024 on your calendar for next year.

73,
N5VCX

MINUTES
Board of Directors Meeting
Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club
March 12th, 2023, 4:00 PM Via Videoconference
Board Members Present:

- President – Mike Hardwick – N5VCX
- Vice President – Kori Rahman – WX5KR
- Treasurer – Dave Ely – N5EKW
- Cor. Secretary – Jeff Greer – W5JEF
- Rec. Secretary – Michael Manciaz – W5SPC
- 1 Yr. at Large Director – Terry Leatherland – K5PGF
- 2 Yr. at Large (A) Director – Anthony Morones – W5LIC

Guests Present:

- Eddie – NU5K
- Darren – W5AKC
- Phillipe – K5BOU
- Rick – K5RBC

Meeting:

1. Call to Order: The President being the Chair called the meeting to order at 4:02 PM.
2. Establishment of a Quorum: A business quorum of board members was established.
3. Club President's Opening Statement: The President thanked those in attendance for taking the time to join the meeting.
4. Emergency Business: NONE
5. Approval of Agenda: Agenda approved as presented unanimously.
6. Approval of Minutes: Minutes approved as presented unanimously.
7. Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's report was presented to and approved pending changes.
8. Corresponding Secretary: Will sent emails out to members. Nothing to report.
9. Old Business:
 - a. Newsletter:
 - i. Future of the Newsletter – TABLE until April Board of Directors Meeting.
 - b. Greater Houston HamFest
 - i. Outcome meeting March 19th, 2023.
 - c. Museum Ships Weekend
 - i. Will be contacting Mark – K5MGJ
 - ii. Info will be place in newsletter.
 - d. Field Day
 - i. Kori – WX5KR will be the Committee Chair.
 - ii. Kori – WX5KR will set up program plan for later discussion.
 - e. Field Trip Coast Guard Communication Ellington Field
 - i. Mike – N5VCX will be setting up. Will be a Saturday.
 - f. Club Committee – Types
 - i. Ideas
 1. Social, Hamfest/Field Day, Website, Membership, Testing, Supervisory, Radio Sports
 - ii. Tabled
 - g. Life Members Badges / Certificates
 - i. \$700 approved for the spending of items.
10. New Business:
 - a. Hamfest Volunteers (Thank you gift)
 - i. Agree for the patch.
 - ii. Tabled until April BOD meeting.
 - b. General Meetings
 - i. April
 1. HOA Stealth Antenna – Terry

- ii. May
 - Museum Ship presentation
 - iii. June
 - 1. Field Day presentation
 - iv. July
 - 1. Walter H presentation. Possible DMR
 - c. BOD Meetings DATE / TIME Change
 - i. Discussion Tabled
 - d. Suggestion of accounting.
 - i. Will be discuss at a later date.
11. Next Board of Directors Meeting Date: April 8th, 2023 at 9 AM on Zoom.
12. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 5:14 PM.

Submitted By – Michael Manciaz – W5SPC (Recording Secretary)





River Oaks Car Stereo
Since 1990
4129 Richmond Ave
Houston TX 77027
713-626-7627 -
help@riveroakscarstereo.com
riveroakscarstereo.com

NU5K - Eddie
KB5YTA - Dwayne
KB5OBB - Eddie Jr
KF5RKJ - BLake
WSLIC - Anthony



Field Day *Food*

The BVARC Food Team is gearing up for the 2023 Field Day! We are proud to announce our entire team is back this year! Daphne (**K5VQY**), Scott (**KD5FBA**), Lou Ann and Kelly (**KG5QJE**). We are committed to serving the best Field Day food yet! We need your help to make the food service a huge success this year. *Please fill out the "food" survey.* It will not take too long but will give us valuable information as we plan the menus. The QR code will take you to the survey. Thanks!

73,

The BVARC Food Team



Brews with BVARC Update:

Brews with BVARC has been a lot of fun and has “Proven to be very popular”. From our first event in January at Saint Arnold’s Brewery we have had attendance in the double digits and there’s more every time. The beer selection and tacos at No Label brewing Company in February was great. Our latest brewery in March was CounterCommon in Bellaire. They had a great selection of food, and we had 14 members there with us to enjoy it and their great beers. So far I’ve gotten a very nice list of recommendations from our members on new breweries to try out and we’ll be moving through them throughout the year.

Our next Brews with BVARC event on **April 11th** will be in Missouri City at a place called **Texas Leaguer Brewery**. After having a few hiccups at the other locations, I went ahead and gave them a call and they seem pretty excited to have us. They have some neat games (e.g. cornhole) and a large selection of beers. It really looks like a fun place. They do not make their own food on-site, BUT they have food trucks there every day of the week! They told me that Tuesdays are usually the Hearth & Dome food truck that offers some pretty nice looking pizza. They ARE open till 10pm, so we can have another late-night hangout. The food truck does close up around 8:30pm so keep that in mind if you want food. They have a lot of beers that they brew there and you can find that selection on their website TXLeaguer.com and the food truck has a website as well HearthAndDome.com. I will be listening in on 146.520 MHz FM Simplex if you have trouble finding our table. As always, arrive when you can, be safe, be responsible, and let's have a great time. Hope to see you there!

- Kori, WX5KR

APRIL Brews with BVARC:

Texas Leaguer Brewing Co.
13503 Pike Rd
Missouri City, TX 77489

Tuesday, April 11th, 2023
6:30pm-10pm



BVARC Rag Chew Net

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

02/22/23, K5LKJ (NCS), W5VOM, K5JPP, K5LJ, KG5ICR, KI5HOC, N5VCM, W5ALW, W5TKZ, AA5OA (Percy, AR), WW5PA, K5TPC, AA0ST (Dickinson), KJ5Y (R)(Georgia), W1BG (Katy).
(15 Check-Ins) Solar Cycle 25: SFI = 161, SN = 100, A = 16, K = 2 / Band Rpt: FAIR

03/01/23, K5LKJ (NCS), K5LJ, W5VOM, W5TKZ, K5JPP, WW5PA, KI5MRF (Bellaire), W5ALW, KI5HOC, KG5ICR, KF5ZAC. (12 Check-Ins) Solar Cycle 25: SFI = 161, SN = 105, A = 28, K = 1 / Band Rpt: FAIR

03/08/23, K5LKJ (NCS), WB5ITT (Orange), K5LJ, W5VOM, KG5ICR, W5ALW, KD5AUU (Cypress), KI5HOC, WB5ZPK (Dickinson), KC5DJT (Cedar Park), K5TPC, (Bellaire), W1BG (Katy), W5TKZ, W5LIC (Bellaire), AA0ST (Dickinson), K5RBC (Lake Jackson). (16 Check-Ins) Solar Cycle 25: SFI = 182, SN = 146, A = 10, K = 3 / Band Rpt: GOOD

03/15/23, K5LKJ (NCS), K5JPP, K5TPC, W1BG (Katy), KI5HOC, K5LJ, W5TKZ, KG5ICR, W5VOM, KD5AUU, KF5ONT (Conroe), AA0ST (Dickinson), W5ALW, WW5PA (R), W5LIC (Bellaire).
(15 Check-Ins) Solar Cycle 25: SFI = 136, SN = 96, A = 23, K = 2 / 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 your experiences. Come join in the conversation each Wednesday evening.

Regards. John K5LKJ

The Radio Hotel—Antenna Measurement Tools & Accs.

by Rick Hiller W5RH

Some of the Radio Hotel column subjects come from members that call me to discuss certain antenna aspects or problems. I enjoy that and here is one that happened recently that stirred the grey matter.

Terry, K5PGF (Pretty Good Fellow) called me today to ask about measuring a balun. What struck me was that Terry had an MFJ 259 analyzer, as do I, and that he had a kit of “things/accessories” to ensure proper connections when he was helping folks with their antennas on site. Me too. I keep mine in a make-up case my daughter threw out. It fits the MFJ analyzer and all of my “accessories”, pictured below.



What I like about the MFJ 259B. It is easily frequency agile -- tunable. Shows me the varying Z, R, jx and SWR numbers so I can see trends, as I tune across the bands. Graphs are great, but numbers are what make up the graphs. I just transpose the numbers displayed in my head. Nice thing about Ham Bands -- they are fairly narrow



and our antennas usually have a reasonably wide 3:1 SWR bandwidth (emphasis on “usually”. Well, maybe not 80 or 160 -- HI.) By my comments, don’t let me talk you out of your Ukrainian Rig Expert, as it is a great tool. But, it gives graphs and you then have to dig for the numbers. Most Hams are the 95%’ers who just need a graph. That is all good too. See TRH May 2021 Beacon https://bvarc.org/rh/rh_2105.pdf SWR – “Last Gas For Cycle 25 -- A plea for more 5%’ers.

Measuring tools – Reference TRH “Before The Nano VNA” https://bvarc.org/rh/rh_2102.pdf I use the MFJ 259B, The Heathkit GDO-Grid Dip Oscillator for resonance measurement and a VOM for continuity (all pictured above). Then I add to this cadre of gear all of the accessories -- jumpers, connectors, adapters and resistor standards that I need to connect to just about any antenna system no matter where in the system I can connect. When putting your kit together think not of your system, but the possibility of others using their own methods to rig their antenna system as they see fit.

When doing work for others, before you do any work, you will need to confirm proper operation of your antenna analyzer on site. Sometimes rogue RF can cause you problems. Read “Blame it on IZO” on the BVARC Tech Articles page. <http://www.bvarc.org/Tech/BlameItOnIZO.pdf> I have not had extensive experience with the Rig Expert, but you should measure it too, once on site, using fixed SWR loads for 1:1 50 ohms, 2:1 25 and 200 ohms and 4:1 12.5 or 200 ohms. If you are using the Nano VNA it comes with its’ own Short, Open, 50 ohm calibration loads. What I do in some cases, where the RF is quite high, like in the IZO story, I use an OIB – Operating Impedance Bridge -- my high power capable VNA based LP-100A SWR/Watt Impedance meter and a 100 watt transceiver easily overrides this rogue RF.

It is admirable to do antenna work for others. Just pack the appropriate tools and accessories. So, thank you for your lend’ed hand and enjoy the learning experience. It is part of what our great hobby is all about.

2023 Bike Texas MS150 Bike Tour
Amateur Radio Volunteer Information
April 29 & 30, 2023

Do you think you can handle communications for emergencies or disasters or medical situations? Can you quickly install your radio equipment into emergency vehicles to help provide communications? If you would like to find out how to be better prepared for emergency communications while helping a worthy cause, then sign up to volunteer to help with communications for the MS150 Houston/Austin to College State Bike Tour. Amateur radio communications is one of the communications links for the MS150, providing reliable communications for the entire 2-day bike ride. Operators are assigned to critical locations along the route as well as being assigned to important individuals and groups during the event. The positions that amateur radio operators are assigned to 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 depends on the location.
- **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**
- **Bryan Command Post** – The command post interacts with medical incidents, and other problems on the ride. The command post monitors the ride on HF, VHF or UHF amateur bands. Medical vehicles are tracked with APRS units throughout 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 Sunday evening 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 **5:00 am sharp on Saturday morning and will end between 6 and 9 pm on Sunday**. There are two informational meetings the week before the ride - one on Monday and one on Wednesday. If you would like to volunteer or find out more information, please go to www.houstonhams.org or call Mike Hardwick at 713-826-6917.



FYI – As this issue goes to press, one of the balloons launched at the BVARC Greater Houston HamFest, APRS call sign - N5EKO-109, is in its 3rd orbit around the world and is approaching Western Africa. It has not lost altitude and is still going strong. WAY TO GO!

What is BVARC POTA?

I would like to tell you (as briefly as possible) about how BVARC POTA got started, what the events are like, and what we hope for in the future. Sometime in mid 2021, Anthony W5LIC got very interested in the Parks on the Air program, and started going out to Brazos Bend State Park several times a month. The word spread on the 146.940 MHz repeater about his trips, and people started to drop by to see him out there. On January 22nd 2022 I made my first trip out to the park with Anthony, and in those first two days I made 295 contacts at K-2992 (POTA designator for Brazos Bend State Park). Needless to say, I was hooked. Soon after I started going out with Anthony over and over again, refining my own portable setup, operating four radios with Anthony using his quadplexer and DX Commander. Before we knew it, many club members were showing up to learn about POTA and what we did. So we decided to make it official, and BVARC Parks On The Air was born.

We had our first few events out at our regular spot: Elm Lake in Brazos Bend State Park. Turnout was incredible, our members came out in full force, operating our stations, using the club call sign, and making hundreds of contacts each time. The club call sign got it's very own POTA account, and the awards were coming in. Members brought out their camping gear, their chairs, their radios, best of all their families and friends. It has been wonderful to see. I've brought out some sausages for lunch, eggs for breakfast, and coffee for those early mornings. But that doesn't compare to the numerous times members have brought out donuts, kolaches, cookies, subs, hot dogs, chips, sodas, you name it. The club is full of generous and kind people and that's a lesson I learned quickly at the BVARC POTA events.

Our last event of 2022 was held at a different park, Stephen F. Austin State Park. It was around then that we decided to get this event moving around. In 2023 we've been to Brazos Bend, San Jacinto Battleground, and most recently Galveston Island State Park. These events were not only fun, but have been a huge learning opportunity for our members. We answer questions about setting up a portable station, antennas to use, radio pros and cons, band conditions, how to call CQ, and how to log contacts. Many people have had their very first HF contacts at BVARC POTA. We've helped people get over their mic fright, and get comfortable operating in pileups. On many occasions we've had Boy Scouts get on the air for their merit badges, or met people who were just wandering the park and took the opportunity to introduce them to ham radio.

So please come out if you can, enjoy the outdoors and get on the air at BVARC POTA. We hope to grow this event more, and to do that we need members who are willing and interested in learning how to set up the stations, answer questions, get people signed in, and help folks get on the air and log their contacts. If you're interested, the best way to do it is to come out to our events! Let me or Anthony know and we'll be happy to get you going. Our next event is coming up on April 23rd at Huntsville State Park. Hope to see you there!

- Kori, WX5KR

APRIL BVARC POTA:

Huntsville State Park
565 Park Road 40 west
Huntsville, TX 77340

Sunday April 23rd, 2023
10am-5pm

Where in the World is . . .

Brunei (V8)
CQ Zone 28
IOTA OC-088

Brunei, officially known as the Nation of Brunei, the Abode of Peace. OR Negara Brunei Darussalam in Malay. It's located on the northwest coast of the island of Borneo. On three sides bordered by Malaysia and facing the South China Sea.



It's a good place to live, with its principal product being oil. Considered a "fully developed" country by the IMF. According to Forbes Magazine it ranks as the fifth richest nation on the planet. The country has zero debt.

Brunei's government is a constitutional monarchy. Under Brunei's constitution, the Sultan is the head of state with full executive authority. Since 1962, this authority has included emergency powers, which are renewed every two years. The country has been under hypothetical martial law since 1962. The Sultan, Hassanal Bolkiah also serves as the state's Prime Minister, Finance Minister and Defense Minister. As Mel Brooks observed, it is good to be king.

Petroleum was discovered in 1926. Oil and natural gas have been the basis of Brunei's development and wealth since the late 20th century.

This is a devoutly Muslim nation; land of gold-plated mosques and wooden water villages, a nation so rich from its oil and gas resources that no one pays tax. It is a seven-hour flight from Melbourne, but Brunei is little known and very much underrated for travelers. Brunei is clean and virtually free of crime with pristine rainforests, palm-fringed beaches and palatial resorts.



In this land of over 400,000 people, there are approximately 400 licensed amateurs. According to Club Log, it is 109th on the Most Wanted DX entity list.

Reporting from the Dark Side,

Ron, K5HM

MARCH VE - FCC TESTING SESSIONS RESULTS

For March 3rd and March 4th, at the HamFest - we had 28 candidates and conducted 36 tests.

New Licensees:

Burton, S. (Technician)
Heidrich, S. (Technician)
Henry, J. (Technician)
Brockman, A. (Technician)
Gonzalez, M. (Technician)
Leatherwood, M. (Technician)

Upgrades:

KT0DDW (General)
KI5UZI (General)
KI5TEB (General)
KI5IOJ (General)
KI5YZU (General)
KI5JML (General)

KI5ZQS (General)
W5BBM (Extra)
KI5PWL (Extra)
KI5ZHE (Extra)
KI5WLJ (Extra)
KI5ZHM (Extra)

VEs in attendance – K5GOL, K5LJ, KG4NDS, KF5BMZ, WM5N and WX5KR – **THANKS!**

Congratulations to all!

The next BVARC test session will be Saturday April 1st. **Pre-registration is required.**

For new licensees the testing fee, paid at the session is \$15. An additional \$35 license fee (totaling \$50), will be collected by the FCC separately for new, renewal and vanity calls. License upgrades **do not** pay the added \$35 fee, just the \$15 session fee.

YOUTH LICENSING INCENTIVE PROGRAM

The ARRL has created a youth program (18 and under) to defray the licensing costs to a total of **\$5** (deducting the \$35 increase and \$10 off the \$15 VE session fee). See: <http://www.arrl.org/youth-licensing-grant-program>

Also, BVARC is implementing it's own program for **youth** licensing.

We'll provide a **new VHF/UHF transceiver (Baofeng, limited supply)** at the VE session, to youth that successfully pass their Technician test. This is the result of a very generous grant from a BVARC member

Bottom line, a young person for \$5, can walk into a test session and walk out with a new radio and a pending license.

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

Details for candidates are found at <https://bvarc.org/home/ham-radio-license-testing-houston/>

Pre-register to attend a test session at: <https://hamstudy.org/sessions/arrl/77008/inperson>

For questions, Email Mark Janzer, K5MGJ at (k5mgj@yahoo.com).

Museum Ships Weekend

Planning and preparations for Museum Ships Weekend, June 3-5, are in full swing. It's one of BVARC's legacy annual operating events. It is a great introduction to operating in conditions like Field Day, in a non-competitive event. All members are welcome to participate. The event will be held at Seawolf Park on Pelican Island. We'll have up to three stations available for operations. Food and (non-alcoholic) beverages will be available. There will be limited overnight accommodations available on the Stewart for operators.

We're planning for a mobilization party tentatively on Saturday, April 15th, to repair some of the antennas and prepare for the June event. Contact Mark Janzer (K5MGJ), to express your interest and to help out.

2023 Officers:

President (2022-2023)

Michael Hardwick, N5VCX, n5vcx@att.net

Vice President (2023-2024)

Kori Rahman, WX5KR kori113@gmail.com

Recording Secretary (balance of 2022 – 2023)

Mike Manciaz -- W5SPC, michael.manciaz@gmail.com

Corresponding Secretary (2021-2022)

Jeff Greer, W5JEF, greerjw@hotmail.com

Treasurer (2021-2022)

David Ely, N5EKW, Davidely@prodigy.net

2 Year At-Large Board Member A: (2022-2023)

Anthony Morones, W5LIC, W5lictx@gmail.com

2 Year At-Large Board Member B: (2023-2024)

Drew Dasher, N1ER, Adasher18@hotmail.com

1 Year At Large (2023)

Terry Leatherland, K5PGF, K5pgf@yahoo.com

Regularly Scheduled Club Happenings:

General Meeting

Both in person and zoom

Second Thursday each month. 7:00PM

Check www.BVARC.org for more current info.

Board of Directors Meeting

The Saturday before the 2nd Thursday, 9:00 AM

Both in-person and Zoom. CHECK THE WEBSITE as this might change.

Bayland Park Community Center

Bayland Park, 6400 Bissonnet, Houston.

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.

The meeting location is open, however 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

Stir Crazy Net is held each weekday at noon. Check

www.BVARC.org for current info.

Greater Houston Simplex Net 4th Thursday, propagation net, 7:00 PM, on 146.54 MHz simplex and an alternate frequency of 147.54.

QuestionAIR every Tuesday at 7:00 PM on 146.94, negative (-) shift, PL Tone of 167.9.

Advertising in the BVARC Newsletter

Rates are as follows: Business card sized ads are \$10 each or 6 monthly installments for \$50; Half (½) page - \$25 per month for \$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:

WEDNESDAY LUNCH BUNCH

This group meets weekly at Luby's Cafeteria, W. Airport & FM-1092 (Murphy Rd). 11AM.

WEDNESDAYS – AMSAT & QRP GROUP

This too is not available at press time. If anyone has information on this, please let the Editor know.

Hamfests

(Typically within 200 miles of Houston)

04/15/2023 - Ham EXPO

Location: Belton, TX

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Temple Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://tarc.org>

06/16/2023 - 06/17/2023

Radio Fiesta

Location: Schertz, TX

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: San Antonio Radio Club

Website: <https://w5sc.org/radio-fiesta/>

07/08/2023 - Texas City Tideland's Hamfest

Location: Texas City, TX

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Tideland's Amateur Radio Society

Website: <http://www.tideland's.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 both in-person and via ZOOM on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. If you have signed up for the reflector, you will receive notice and the attendance password, etc. It will also be on the website (above) a few days beforehand.

BVARC amateur radio testing 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, because of COVID and scheduling conflicts, 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 "Stir Crazy Net" is also held weekdays at 12 Noon on the same frequency as above.

A rag chew net is held each Wednesday at 7 p.m. on 3910 KHz +/- 3 KHz.

The QuestionAIR Net is held every Tuesday at 7:00 PM on 146.94, negative (-) shift, PL Tone of 167.9.

To obtain information about joining **BVARC** or its activities, see the BVARC website: www.bvarc.org

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SUGAR LAND, TX 77487-2997
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

FIRST CLASS POSTAGE

Board of Directors' Meeting – April 8, 2023
General Membership Meeting – April 13, 2023



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