



BRAZOS VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



AMATEUR RADIO FOR SOUTHWEST HOUSTON AND FORT BEND COUNTY

MAY 2002

VOLUME 25 ISSUE 5

I Want You for Field Day!

by Paul L. Gray, Jr., N0JAA

Are you ready for Field Day? Do you have what it takes to make contacts in a fast-paced contest? Do you have the skills necessary to set up an emergency Amateur Radio Station?

You are cordially invited to come out to George Bush Park, Pavilion #1, June 22-23, 2002. There will be lots to do, including setting up stations, operating, and, of course, the annual Field Day Barbecue!

The emphasis for Field Day 2002 will be on educating the general public on the benefits and capabilities of Amateur Radio, particularly in the area of public service and emergency communications.

ARRL has made two

The first change is the elimination of the Novice/Tech station. In its place is the "Get On The Air" (GOTA) station. The purpose of this station is two-fold: 1), to allow the general public to operate a live Amateur Radio station and learn about the hobby; 2), to allow inactive operators and operators without HF privileges to operate the station and garner points for the club.

The other significant change is that the ARRL has opened up all of Central and South America to the Field Day contest. Beginning with 2002, all stations in the Americas will be able to actively participate in Field Day.

We will attempt to cover all of the standard HF bands for this years event: 80/75, 40, 20, 15, 10 and 6 meters. A 160-meter station is also desirable; however, at this time, it is not known if band conditions will be favorable for contest operations. (See Field Day on page 2)

Presidential Corner

Field Day, ARES, Emergency communications, Disaster communications, RACES, Public Welfare communications.

This are the non-technical reasons for amateur radio. The government, both US and internationally, made the decision in 1934 to allow individuals to operate radio transmitting equipment as a hobby during none emergency times for the availability of having communications for emergencies. For the folks that have never seen any part of the concerning amateur radio, here is the first part

explaining the basis and purpose of amateur radio.

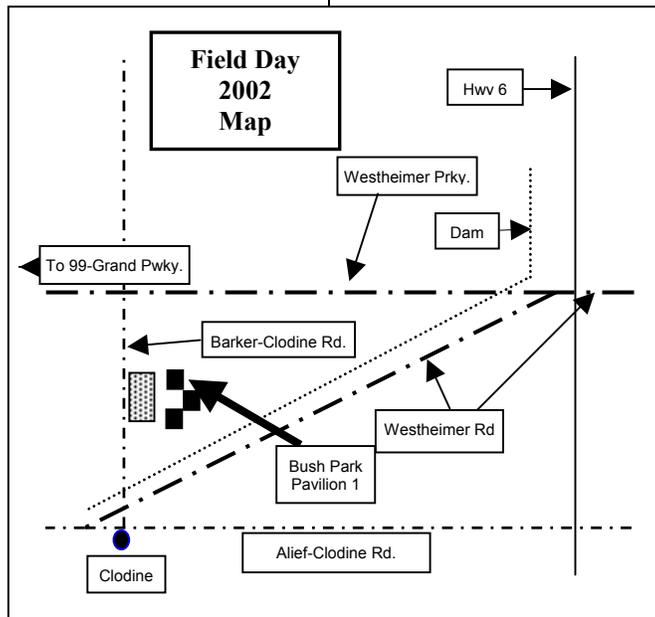
Code of Federal Regulations
Title 47, Volume 5
TITLE 47--TELECOMMUNICATION
PART 97--AMATEUR RADIO SERVICE--Table of Contents

Subpart A--General Provisions

Sec. 97.1 Basis and purpose.

The rules and regulations in this part are designed to provide an amateur radio service having a fundamental purpose as expressed in the following principles:

(See Prez on page 2)



2002 Club Officers:

President:
Mike Hardwick, N5VCX
n5vcx@worldnet.att.net

Vice President:
Robert Moore, KK5UO
kk5uo@hal-pc.org

Treasurer:
Rex Ritz, KC5EEU
icrex@yahoo.com

Corresponding Secretary:
Cameron Mitchell, K5CAM
k5cam@arrl.net

Recording Secretary:
Bill Allen, KC5IUU
william_allen@esicontrols.com

One-Year Board Member:
John Gilmore, AC5TL
johnnygilmore_1999@yahoo.com

Two-Year Board Member:
Paul Gray, N0JAA
n0jaa@aol.com

Three-Year Board Member:
Ross Lawler, W5HFF
w5hff@juno.com

Past President:
Kevin Foto, KD5O
foto@texas.net

Club Happenings:

General Meeting

Second Thursday each month-
Field Day Preparation, June 13

Board of Directors Meeting

First Thursday of each month at the
Sugar Land Community Center

Volunteer Examiner Program

BVARC administers Amateur
License Exams on the 2nd Tuesday
of each month.
Contact John Moore, KK5NU

Eating Schedule

Third Friday Dinner at 6:30.
Location announced in the
calendar.

Saturday morning breakfasts –
7:30 AM Viking Den,
Hwy 90A in Stafford

FIELD DAY

(continued from page 1)

Also wanted are operators and equipment for PSK31, satellite, and alternative-power QRP. In the past, we have operated the talk-in station on alternative power. I want to change things around this year and make the QRP station an ACTUAL contest station.

We will also need generators (lots of generators!), antennas for various bands, towers, bases, guy wire, and, of course, radios. You can't have a Field Day contest without radios unless you have two tin cans and a LOT of string!

Our goal is to operate 5A. We beat CLARC last year in the 5A category. With your help, I know we can do it again this year!

The next general membership meeting on June 13th will be the Field Day Preparation Meeting. We will again ask people to sign up at the meeting. Operating positions and necessary equipment will be discussed. Plans for Field Day will be finalized at the meeting.

If you are interested in joining the Field Day Committee, or would like to volunteer to help out with Field Day, the Committee will meet at the next meeting of the Board of Directors on June 6th at 7:30 PM.

BVARC came in 19th place in 5A last year. Let's pull together and cross the finish line first in 5A for 2002!

PREZ

(continued from page 1)

(a) Recognition and enhancement of the value of the amateur service to the public as a voluntary noncommercial communication service, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications.

(b) Continuation and extension of the amateur's proven ability to contribute to the advancement of the radio art.

(c) Encouragement and improvement of the amateur service through rules which provide for advancing skills in both the communication and technical phases of the art.

(d) Expansion of the existing reservoir within the amateur radio service of trained operators, technicians, and electronics experts.

(e) Continuation and extension of the amateur's unique ability to enhance international goodwill.

As you can see, the first item for the purpose of amateur radio is on emergency communications. Even with cell-phones, NEXTEL, and the Internet, amateur radio can still provide a very reliable source for emergency communications. With the products today, amateur stations can be set up anywhere and provide a never-ending stream of communications for disaster and emergency communications. There is only problem, the amateur operator.

If we are to be a value to the public, we have to be prepared. Whether prepared through equipment or through operational capabilities, we need to be prepared. Do you know how to operate your radio on more than one or two channels? Can you change your PL tone without getting the manual out? Do you know where other repeaters are in your area? Can you take your equipment and setup operations in different locations? My feeling is if you cannot do any of the things that I have listed, you cannot successfully help during an emergency situation.

Field day is just a few weeks away. This is the time that we should work on being prepared for emergencies and able to help out in a moments notice. If you want amateur radio to survive, help out on field day. Come to the general meeting on the 13th and tell Paul you are ready to put some effort into the hobby. Remember, only with everyone's help and working together will the hobby remain.

Mike
N5VCX

BVARC PUBLIC SERVICE NET

Doug Woodruff, KC5VYZ - Coordinator

The BVARC Public Service Net meets every Monday night on 145.47 (123 PL) at 9:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome. Check-ins and that night's net control:

3/4 - 24 - Cam, K5CAM
3/11 - 28 - Kevin, KD5O
3/18 - 28 - Joe, K5JWM
3/25 - 23 - Doug, KC5VYZ
4/1 - 34 - Jack, WN5A
4/8 - 28 - Doug, KC5VYZ
4/15 - 25 - Joe, K5JWM
4/22 - 27 - Jack, WN5A
4/29 - 27 - John, K5LKJ
5/6 - 21 - Cam, K5CAM
5/13 - 28 - Kevin, KD5O
5/20 - 17 - Joe, K5JWM
5/27 - 10 - Doug, KC5VYZ

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THE BVARC RAG CHEW NET

April 2002 by Sam Wilson, N5CPA

PLEASE NOTE FREQUENCY CHANGE FROM 3960 KHz

3962.5 KHz +/-3KHz Wednesdays at 7:00PM

Just WHAT IS the Rag Chew Net? Well it's a chance for you to get on the low bands and hang out with other BVARC members, as well as hams from around the south central US! WHAT?? Don't have voice privileges? Got a short-wave receiver? Dial in and listen, then check in using the telephone number announced at the beginning of each net.

4/03/02--N5CPA, K5CEK, KE5SR, K5LJ, K5JWM,
W5GHK, K5HFY, K5LBU. (8)

4/10/02--N5CPA, K5CEK, K5LBU, N5VXU, K5VRJ,
AB5BA, K5JWM, KB5F, KD5TG. (9)

4/17/02--N5CPA, K5JWM, KE5SR, AB5BA, N5VXU,
WA8LEQ, KB5F. (7)

4/24/02--N5CPA, K5CEK, K5VRJ, AB5BA, K5JWM,
KE5SR, K5LJ, K5HFY, K5LBU, WB5HVH. (10)

SCANNER JACK'S CORNER

Here are the HURRICANE SEASON frequencies to monitor.

H.F. HAM
3.935 HURRICANE NET
14.300 MARITIME MOBILE SERVICE NET
14.325 HURRICANE NET
V.H.F. HAM
145.490 FT. BEND CO. E.O.C.
146.840 HOUSTON E.O.C.
SHIPS WX
12.359
COAST GUARD VHF
156.250
156.800
157.100
H.F.
4.426 12.788
6.501 13.089
8.502 17.314
8.764
WLO
4.369 13.110
8.788 17.362

NWS HURRICANE HUNTER
162.400 HOU. 304.800 308.4 AM MODE
162.550 GAL. 344.600 AM MODE

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Jack Roberts KB5TMY

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Diane Austin
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AMATEUR RADIO TESTING
BVARC AMATEUR EXAMINATION SESSION
RESULTS OF THE May 14th SESSION
by: John Moore, KK5NU

B-VARC sponsored and administered the ARRL's Amateur Radio Examination session that was held on Tuesday, May 14, 2002 at HCC's Stafford Campus here in Stafford.

MEMBERS OF THE VE TEAM:

Larry Jacobson, K5LJ
Cameron Mitchell, K5CAM
John Moore, KK5NU

Four examination elements were administered during the course of the evening to three applicants. One Technician licensee completed Element Three (General Class); one Tech Plus upgraded to General and one General Class licensee upgraded to Extra Class, with the total number of elements passed being 3. The overall "pass rate" for the evening was 75%.

Congratulations to all the following who upgraded and/or passed exams:

Wayne G. Barker - KD5QLK - Element 3
Richard H. Gomer - KD5MOA - Extra
Paul L. Gray, Jr. - N0JAA - General

Many thanks to all the Team Members and Assistants who volunteer their valuable time and effort each month.

All of us at B-VARC again thank everyone at HCC Scarcella Technology Center for making these excellent classroom facilities available to us for our exams each month.

..... 73

CHECK OUT NEW FCC WEB SITE

<http://wireless.fcc.gov/services/amateur/>

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PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

July 21st, 2002 Katy Flatlands Bike Ride - Katy

One day loop bike ride starting and finishing in Katy
5:30 am to 4:00 p.m.
30 operators needed

April 12th & 13th, 2003 MS150 BIKE TOUR

Several people had mentioned that they would have volunteered for the MS150 if they had known about it earlier. Well here are the dates! Sign up now. One hundred operators needed for both one day and two day positions starting at 4:30 a.m. Saturday to 11 p.m. Sunday. Food and sleeping accommodations provided.

Houston Command post needing 20 operators for Friday noon to Sunday midnight operation. Operations include VHF, UHF, HF and APRS
If you would like to volunteer, call me at 713-771-4625.

Mike, N5VCX

Editor's notes: The following are the rules for the selection of the B-VARC awards, given annually at the January awards banquet. It has been suggested that the awards criteria might be updated and/or perhaps new ones created. The rules are presented here to see if the membership might wish consider updating.

B-VARC Awards

Information concerning Awards given at the January Awards Banquet

The Order of the Key

The Order of the Key is the highest honor that can be conferred by BVARC. With this award, we recognize the BVARC member who has made outstanding contributions to the progress of the club. These contributions might take the form of a long-term, consistent commitment to service, or might represent an extremely high level of service for a shorter time. In any case, the award represents exceptional service and commitment to the goals of BVARC.

Any BVARC member may make nominations for the Order of the Key. The nominations must be made in writing, and should include a description of the nominee's contributions to the club. Nominations must be submitted to any BVARC officer or Board member not later than the December regular membership meeting. The President will then poll the Board of Directors secretly to allow them to vote on the nominations. Although any member may enter a nomination, only the Board of Directors does voting. If in any year, no candidate receives unanimous approval of the Board, then no award shall be made that year. The vote by the Board of Directors must be unanimous for the award to be conferred.

The Dr. Bill Award

In 1988 BVARC initiated the presentation of the Dr. Bill Award, which was originated by Keith and Eva Hugel (KA5F and KA5CYZ) in honor of Dr. Bill Ossenfort, NG5C, now a silent key, which was very active in the Volunteer

Examiner Program in the Houston area.

This award may be presented each year to the BVARC member recognized as the outstanding participant in the BVARC Volunteer Examiner Program. There shall be no more than one award presented each year, unless in any given year the Board of Directors elects unanimously to award more than one award. It is not mandatory that an award be made each year, if in the board's majority opinion, no nominee is selected. Under normal circumstances, other than the condition stated in the first sentence of this paragraph, the yearly recipient of the award, should there be one, must receive majority approval of the BVARC Board of Directors.



Claude and his 80/40/10 "stealth" Isotron birdcages.

The Loop and Zepp Award

In 1989, the Loop and Zepp Award was originated to recognize BVARC members for their efforts to promote operation on the high frequency (HF) bands. These efforts may take the form of dedicated participation in any form or forms of HF activities, the promotion of HF activities or the assistance in furthering HF activities.

There shall be no more than one award presented each year, unless in any one given year the Board of Directors elects

unanimously to award more than one award. It is not mandatory that the award be made each year, if in the board's majority opinion, no nominee is selected. Under normal circumstances, other than the condition stated in the first sentence of this paragraph, the yearly recipient of the award, should there be one, must receive majority approval of the BVARC Board of Directors.

Any member of the club may make nominations for all Awards. Nominations must be made in writing, and must be submitted to any BVARC officer or Board member not later than the December regular membership meeting.

The BVARC Board of Directors would like to thank **Lockard & White Telecommunications Engineers** for the production of the newsletter with portions of it in color.

BRAZOS VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

2002 Membership Application

Check One:

New Membership

Renewal

Roster Update ONLY

Regular membership dues are \$16.00 a year. Lifetime Memberships are \$160.00. Additional family members may join B-VARC for only \$2.00 a year each with no additional copy of the newsletter.

Name: _____ Call: _____

Additional Family Members: _____ Call: _____

Additional Family Members: _____ Call: _____

(Note: If this is a renewal, please indicate only changes in personal information. Thanks.)

Address: _____ Day Phone () _____

_____ Zip+4: _____ Eve Phone () _____

e-mail address: _____

Main area of interests in amateur radio: _____

License Class:
 Novice General
 Technician Advanced
 Tech+ Extra
 Former Ham Not Yet a Ham

ARRL Membership?
 Life
 Annual
 Not a member

I agree to observe the By-Laws of Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club and rules and regulations of the Federal Communications Commission.

Signature: _____ Call: _____ Date: _____

Remittance:

Regular Membership _____ + Family Membership _____ = \$ _____

BVARC *LIFE MEMBERSHIPS* at \$160/Person _____ = \$ _____

TOTAL = \$ _____

Please make checks payable to BRAZOS VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB and write your call-sign, if any, on your check. Send this form and your check or money order to:

**Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 1630
Missouri City TX 77459-1630**

B-VARC Calendar - June 2002

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 Breakfast 7:30 Viking Den
2	3 Net 9:00 pm 145.470	4	5 HF Net 7:00 pm 3962.5 +/-3KHz	6 BOD Meeting 7:30 pm	7 Arlington HAM-COM	8 Breakfast 7:30 Viking Den Arlington HAM-COM
9	10 Net 9:00 pm 145.470	11 VE Session 6:30 pm	12 HF Net 7:00 pm 3962.5 +/-3KHz	13 Club Meeting 7:30 pm	14	15 Breakfast 7:30 Viking Den
16	17 Net 9:00 pm 145.470	18	19 HF Net 7:00 pm 3962.5 +/-3KHz	20	21 No 3 rd Friday Night Dinner	22 Field Day Bush Park
23 Field Day	24 Net 9:00 pm 145.470	25	26 MS150 Awards Banquet HF Net 7:00 pm 3962.5 +/-3KHz	27	28	29
30						

July 2002

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 Net 9:00 pm 145.470	2	3 HF Net 7:00 pm 3962.5 +/-3KHz	4	5	6 Breakfast 7:30 Viking Den
7	8 Net 9:00 pm 145.470	9 VE Session 6:30 pm BOD Meeting 7:30 PM	10 HF Net 7:00 pm 3962.5 +/-3KHz	11 Club Meeting 7:30 pm	12	13 Breakfast 7:30 Viking Den
14	15 Net 9:00 pm 145.470	16	17 HF Net 7:00 pm 3962.5 +/-3KHz	18	19	20 Breakfast 7:30 Viking Den
21	22 Net 9:00 pm 145.470	23	24 HF Net 7:00 pm 3962.5 +/-3KHz	25	26	27 Breakfast 7:30 Viking Den
28	29 Net 9:00 pm 145.470	30	31 HF Net 7:00 pm 3962.5 +/-3KHz			

**Monthly Publication of the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club.
Amateur Radio for Southwest Houston and Fort Bend County**



Club Call sign - KC5OIG

BVARC's Website: <http://www.hal-pc.org/~bvarc>

Editor: Cameron Mitchell, K5CAM, k5cam@arrl.net

Production Team: Claude Sessions, K5HFY, claudes@juno.com

John Moore, KK5NU, jwm@hal-pc.org

The Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club (BVARC) was, organized in 1978, primarily as an emergency communications group available to assist the communities of Missouri City and Stafford, when required. Since that time, BVARC has grown and expanded its activities to become the most active Amateur radio club in the Southwest Houston and Fort Bend county areas.

Today, BVARC is truly a general interest club with an impressive record of Public Service. The Amateur Radio Relay League (ARRL) has recognized the clubs commitment to service with the coveted status of Special Service Club. We are proud of our members who represent the some of the finest in Amateur Radio. Membership is not limited to licensed operators, but is open to anyone with an interest in Amateur Radio. Meetings are held generally at 7:30 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month, at the Sugar Land Community Center. Talk-in assistance is available in the 145.470, and 444.550 MHz (PL 123.0) repeaters. Membership dues are \$16 annually.

BVARC conducts A.R.R.L. VEC license exam sessions on the second Tuesday of each month. BVARC also conducts a Public Service Net at 9:00 P. M. each Monday on the Memorial Emergency Radio Association's 145.470 and 444.55 repeaters.

To obtain information about joining BVARC or its activities, contact John, K5LKJ, at 281-530-0432. New members and prospective hams should contact the Club's "Elmer", Ross, W5HFF at 281-342-3340 or w5hff@juno.com.

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**BRAZOS VALLEY AMATEUR
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FIRST CLASS POSTAGE

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**June Regular Meeting
is June 13. Program is
FIELD DAY planning.**