



BRAZOS VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



AMATEUR RADIO FOR SOUTHWEST HOUSTON AND FORT BEND COUNTY

MARCH 2005

VOLUME 29 | ISSUE 3

MARCH MEETING NOTICE

As this issue of the newsletter goes to press, the details of the featured presentation are not available but tentatively will be related to DXpeditions.

BVARC'S MIX-N-MATCH SWAPMEET March 5

Do you know that members get free tables? Either simply attend or exhibit, but let's have a good showing!

There will be a number of vendors in addition to the private tables. There are also License Exams being given. See related articles in this issue.

We'll see you there!

New Feature Starts In April QST

No fooling. The April issue of QST marks the inauguration of a new semi-monthly two-page article for less experienced readers, *Getting to Know your Radio*, by Joel Hallas, W1ZR.

The series is designed to acquaint new hams with the operation of some of the more obscure functions and features of modern radio equipment. Author and ARRL Product Review Editor Joel Hallas, W1ZR, says the column "basically talks about what all those knobs do" on modern equipment. "The idea is to acquaint users with the typical features of modern radios." This month's topic—Pass-band Tuning.

Don't Forget Field Day in June!

NEW MEMBER'S AND VISITOR'S NIGHT A SUCCESS

The February general membership meeting had over 55 people attending "New Members and Visitors Night." At least 4 new members signed up and almost 20 paid their annual dues.

There was quite a show of emergency vehicles and antenna masts. These can be seen photo below.

We WELCOME the new members!



LICENSE PREP CLASSES - THEORY & CODE

Plans are currently being formulated to have another round of amateur radio license classes beginning in April. There will be classes for code and for theory. Typically these are 1 – 2 hours in duration, and consist of 4 – 6 classes. The classes will be scheduled to the interested people's convenience. At least four students are needed for the class to "make."

For the Theory class, contact - Ross Lawler, W5HFF, at 281-342-3340, w5hff@yahoo.com
For the Code class, contact - John Chauvin, K5IZO, at 713-981-8281, k5izo@yahoo.com

President's Corner

February's New Ham and New Member night was a grand success. I want to thank everyone that helped; from Ross, W5HFF and Allen, N5XZ on getting the HF demonstration stations on the air to John, KK5NU for bringing the Red Cross communications truck out. I want to also thank Rodney Rod on bring the TARMA trailer out. He has put a lot of time and energy in a very complete mobile communications center.

All the hard work that everyone put in made the night a great success with over 10 renewals and 4 new members for the club. I hope everyone in the club will work hard this year on the 2005 membership drive of 100 new members!

Coming up this weekend, March 5th, is the 4th annual Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club Mix-N-Match swap meet. It will be held at the Sugar Land Community Center from 9:00 a.m. to 1 p.m. Volunteers are still needed to help with concessions, set-up, clean-up and other duties during the day. If you would like to help, please contact me at 713-771-4625. There will be several commercial vendors as well as the display of communications vehicles from the Houston area. And don't forget the various door prizes as well as the grand prize.

Coming up in April is the MS150. I know everyone has heard me talk about it so I will make this very short – Volunteers are needed to help with the communications for the ride! If you would like to help out, please contact me as soon as possible so sleeping and transportation arrangement can be made. This is a very large event and your help is needed.

Don't forget about Field Day coming up in June. If you would like to help out this year, contact Ross, W5HFF or John, K5IZO or Allen, N5XZ. We did very well last year so lets keep the momentum with even a better 2005.

The club has a lot going for it and the way to make BVARC continue is to help out. See everyone on the 5th!

73, N5VCX

Amateur Radio Exam Schedule Change

The Brazos Valley (BVARC) VE Exam Team will conduct a 'special' BVARC Swapmeet exam session at the site of the BVARC Mix 'n Match Annual Swapmeet event on Saturday, March 5, 2005

Exam site is the Sugar Land Community Center, 226 Matlage Way, Sugar Land, TX 77478. We will be in the 'Red Room' at the West end of the building. Doors open at 9:00 AM; we propose to start the testing session at 9:30 AM – Pre-registration is not necessary; we will take walk-ins.

We do **not** plan to conduct our monthly 'Second Tuesday' exam session during the month of March, 2005 -- Last year we examined 15 applicants at the Saturday session – had none show up for the following Tuesday night.

John Moore
VE Liaison - BVARC VE Team

Monday Night NET Updates

Don't forget the Monday Night Public Service Net starts at **8 pm**. 146.88 MHz, PL 103.5 (backup – 145.45, PL –none). The order of check-ins start 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 any officer of BVARC if you are interested.

QRP Adventures – Kit Building, Contests and the NoGa Wattmeter

By Rick Hiller – W5RH

Building your own Ham Radio gear is an activity that has its roots back in the early days of experimental radio where everything you had or used you built from scratch. Through the last ‘century of radio’ we have gyrated very quickly toward completely built commercial gear. Along the way, however, folks like Heathkit and Eico have provided a multitude of kits for the do it yourselfer.

The current and very popular QRP (low power) splinter within the Ham Radio ranks has been promoting building equipment from scratch or from kits for many years. New commercial manufacturers like Elecraft (www.elecraft.com), and even regional QRP clubs (such as NoCal, NJ QRP and 4SQRP) have gotten into the act with a list of great kits. Even some of the smaller city based clubs around the world have decided to have a go at offering a kit. For example, the local Houston QRP Group (H-QRP) <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/HQRP/>, is looking into ‘kitting’ the old Ameco AC-1, a 2 tube crystal controlled transmitter. Prototypes have been built and tested. The ‘glow bug’ (tube aficionados) community has a large interest in such a transmitter kit, so they are watching the local activity with baited breath.

One of the benefits of building a piece of gear is that fact that you have a better understanding of what is inside and how it all works. The old Heathkits had circuit descriptions and troubleshooting charts in case you had to fix the unit a few years down the road. For this reason, I build my own gear, as much as possible, as time and funds permit.

Altoids Tins and Spartan Sprints

The small 4 by 3 inch Altoids candy tins are very popular as QRP radio and accessory housings. They are easy to cut out for switch and other control mountings and are very light weight. Many folks have built complete stations in a single tin. Andy, W5ACM, a lifetime B-VARC member, has built an AT Sprint 3, a 4 band, 5 watt transceiver into an Altoids tin. This includes a set of iambic paddles and rechargeable Lithium Ion batteries.

Visit <http://www.qsl.net/kd1jv/ATS3.HTM>

Now, why would you want to jam all that stuff into an Altoids tin? Well, on the first Monday night of each month, the Adventure Radio Society, ARS, holds a CW QRP Sprint for 2 hours. It is called the “Spartan Sprint”, as all stations are trying to use gear that is physically small and very ‘spartan’. Stations using low QRP power, contact each other in contest style. At the end of the 2 hours, scores are figured on the number of contacts that you made and the weight of your station. The lighter your station the more point you get per QSO. Andy’s “skinny division” station for example, weighs in at 3.7 ounces, including batteries, paddle and headphones. Much, much lighter than my 9 pound, 2 watt out, Tentec Argonaut station with battery, NoGa watt meter, headset and hand key. Check out the ARS web site and also the Spartan Sprint Rules at <http://www.arsqrp.com/ars/>

Kit building – One example

So where do you start when you wish to build a kit? Probably a good starting point is to keep it simple and to build something that you will certainly use. A fine example of both criteria is the NoGa QRP Wattmeter. I recently built one of these kits (see Pictures 1 and 2) into an Altoids tin and use it with my TenTec Argonaut 515 QRP station. The NoGa Wattmeter is sold by the Northern Georgia QRP group for \$25.00 post paid. <http://www.qsl.net/nogaqrp/>

The kit is a complete set of parts, including meters and PC board. It even includes the 10 watt dummy load resistors, shown in Photo 1. The kit does lack an enclosure (use an Altoid tin) and input/output connectors (I used BNC’s), but those are easily come by at Radio Shack or EPO. The unit is made to fit easily within an Altoids mint tin but you can use any other enclosure you desire. Details of construction can be found hand at <http://www.qsl.net/nogaqrp/>. N5ESE has a web page <http://www.io.com/~n5fc/nogawatt.htm> dedicated to his version of the kit, so a visit here would help you figure things out too.

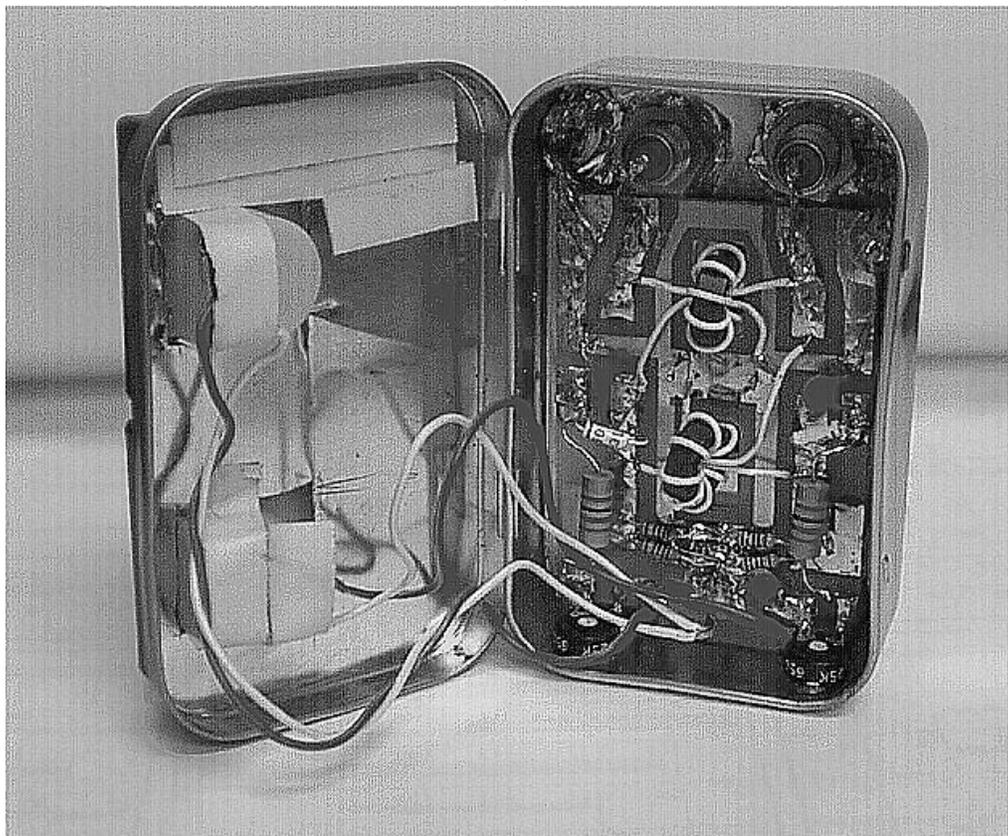
One Caveat of QRP kits

Many QRP kits utilize SMD -- Surface Mount Devices, which are very small. I have a problem with the handling of the small SMD parts. You, on the other hand, might enjoy putting together kits of this sort. It takes a magnifying glass and good lighting along with a very fine tipped soldering iron and a steady hand. Some hams love both working with SMD’s and enjoying the benefit of the extremely small size of the final device that comes from using these parts.

Photo 1



Photo 2



Summary

I have provided below some additional URL's below for kits and clubs, all related to QRP. Also, check out the 'links' that you will find on all of the club web sites. Google searches also work well by just typing in what you need, ie. "QRP kits".

QRP kits are fun to build and quite useful once you finish them. The QRP contests are all fun to operate and being the 'sprint' type contest, they typically take a couple of hours of dedicated time, not a weekend. It is nice to be able to get back to the roots of Ham Radio with kits and to find short spurts of quality operating time. In today's busy commercial world it is good to have a bit of both. Enjoy....Rick Hiller --- W5RH

Just a few extra URL's if you are interested in QRP kits and clubs....many other URL's for QRP can be found by doing a Google search.

<http://www.norcalgrp.org/index.php> -- Norcal QRP Club
www.amqrp.org -- American QRP Club
<http://www.fpqrp.com/> -- Flying Pigs QRP Club
<http://www.wulfden.org/NVQS/CLUBLINK.shtml> -- various club links

<http://www.ohr.com/> -- Oak Hills Research Kits
<http://www.smallwonderlabs.com/> -- Small Wonders Labs Kits
<http://www.bright.net/~kanga/kanga/> -- Kanga USA Kits
<http://www.tentec.com/Ttqrpcw.htm> -- Tentec Kits

Let's get Technical. Get Radio Active. Write an article.

This is your newsletter. You are encouraged to read it, but more importantly, contribute. Have you built a kit or some type? Write it up. Designed and modeled a new HF antenna for your car? Write it up. Started using PSK-31 and just went through the set up of the rig, sound card and Digi-pan? Write it up. Using a unique logging program to keep track of your QSO's? Write it up. Working satellites with your dual band HT and hand held quagi? Write it up.

Step up.....get published in the finest monthly Ham Radio rag in Houston. We can provide you guidance if you need it. The technical side of radio is a major building block in the foundation of Amateur Radio and we all want to hear about what you have been doing from the technical stand point of Ham Radio.

Rick - W5RH

Upcoming Hamfests

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

KCOMM, INC.

10815 Gulfdale San Antonio, Texas 78216

<http://home.satx.rr.com/kcomm/>

Parking Lot Swapfest ! (210) 344-3311

It's in our parking lot, the last Saturday each month.
Gulfdale is close to the San Antonio International Airport.
Hey!!! Free coffee & doughnuts.

C'mon out and set a spell.

Humble TEAC ARC Swap-meet

Third Saturday in March, June, September, December in Humble. Sponsored by TEAC - Hugh W5FM@arrl.net
145.43(minus offset)

Talk-in on 146.940 or 444.100 both have 179.9 tone

Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club Mix-n-Match Swap Meet March 5, 2005

9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Indoor tables and outdoor spaces
Needing volunteers to help with the swap meet!

More info in the newsletter or check

<http://www.hal-pc.org/~bvarc/>

THE BVARC Rag Chew Net for January 2005

3910 KHz +/-3KHz Wednesdays at 7:00PM

By Joe Morgan, K5JWM, Net Coordinator

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.

01/05/05 - K5JWM, K5CEK, N5CPA, W5UHZ, K5LJ, K5VRJ, AB4BA, WA5VRB, KG5RQ. 9 check-ins

01/12/05 - K5JWM, K5CEK, W5UHZ, N5CPA, K5LJ, W5HFF, K5HFY, WA5VRB. 8 check-ins

01/19/05 - K5JWM, N5CPA, W5HFF, K5CEK, K5LJ, W5UHZ, K5VRJ, AB5BA, N5VXU. 9 check-ins

01/26/05 - K5JWM, N5CPA, K5CEK, K5VRJ, AB5BA, W5UHZ, K5LJ, WA5VRB, WB5SRN. 9 check-ins

Houston Amateur Radio Supply

181 Cypresswood Drive

Houston, Texas 77388 - 6038

281-355-7373 800-471-7373 281-355-8007/Fax

Monday to Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

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06/04

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02/05

Public Service Events

3/05/05 The Gator Ride <http://www.gatorride.org> Baytown 18 operators needed
Call Mike Kingman, KA5ZNX at 281-797-7366 KA5ZNX@Juno.com

3/12/05 The Continental Airlines Cycling Classic http://www.active.com/event_detail.cfm?event_id=1170151
Montgomery 10 operators needed Call Mike Hardwick, N5VCX 713-771-4625

3/13/05 Bluebonnet Express <http://www.northwestcyclingclub.com/> Hempstead 20 operators needed
Call Mike Hardwick, N5VCX 713-771-4625

3/20/05 Tour de Cypress <http://www.teamcure.org/tourdecypress.htm> West Houston 17 operators needed
Call Mike Hardwick, N5VCX 713-771-4625

3/16 & 3/17 BP MS150 <http://www.ms150.org> More information elsewhere in the newsletter

5/14/05 Shiner Bash Bike Ride Triple route bike ride starting from Houston, Austin and San Antonio ending in Shiner 25 operators needed to cover all three courses. Contact Mike, N5VCX at n5vcx@arri.net

BPL is in Houston!

IDACOMM will be installing a test BPL transmitter for Centerpoint Energy in the 4500 block of Richmond according to the lat/long on the experimental license. IDACOMM also stated that the equipment from Mitsubishi is not FCC type accepted at this time but expects it to be certified in the next 12-18 months, thus the need for the experimental license. The license states that the FCC can cancel the license at any time as it is only an experimental license. If we get a lot of RF interference, I am sure that the license could be pulled.

I have all the PDF files of their application and correspondence with the FCC should anyone be interested in looking at them.

73...bruce KK5DO



4th Annual Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club MIX 'n' MATCH SWAP MEET

9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. March 5, 2005
Sugar Land Community Center
226 Matlage Way, Sugar Land

Talk-in on 146.880 (minus offset, 103.5 tone)

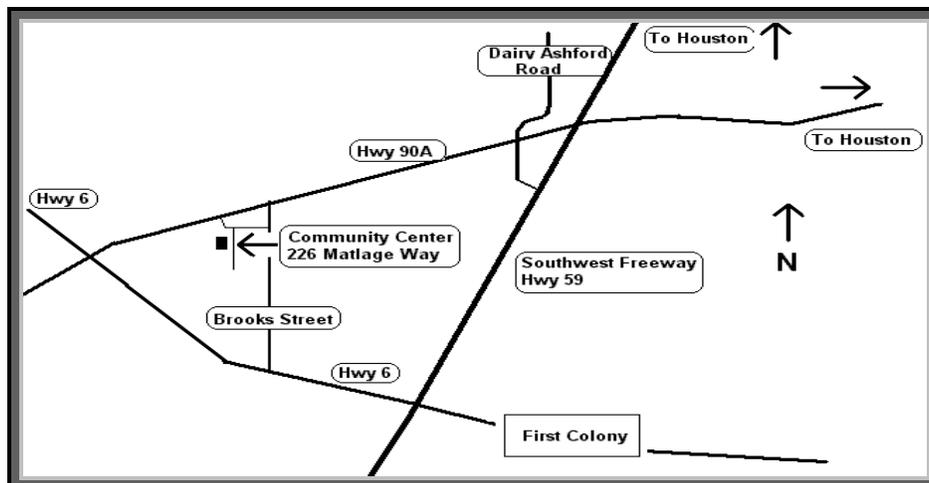
Set-up at 8:00 a.m. Doors open at 9:00 a.m. Community Center closes at 1:00 p.m.
\$1.00 Admission VE Sessions Refreshments Available
Emergency Communications Vehicle Display
Grand Prize Raffle Live Entertainment Boat Anchor Raffle

Tables: Club members - 2 tables free, \$5.00 each after the first 2
Non members - \$5.00 each or 2 tables free with membership!
Commercial tables - \$10.00 each

Tailgate: Club members - 1 space free, \$5.00 each after the first 1
Non members - \$5.00 each or 1 space free with membership!
Commercial - \$10.00 each

It's time to do that early spring-cleaning and bring out the best of the worst or the worst of the best of your equipment, accessories or just plain junk and get rid of it. Come on out and see what equipment you can mix or match with yours. Contact Mike, N5VCX at 713-771-4625, n5vcx@arrl.net or Ross, W5HFF at 281-342-3340, w5hff@juno.com for your tables or information. Isn't it time to upgrade? Amateur radio license testing will begin at 9:30 a.m.

For more information you can go to www.hal-pc.org/~bvarc/



The BP MS150 Houston to Austin Bike Tour

Every April the Lone Star Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society Holds the 2 day BPMS150 Bike Tour. This is one of the premier cycling events in the United States and riders and volunteers come from all over the county to attend the 12,000 plus participant event. The large event is also one of the largest amateur radio public service events in the Houston area utilizing over 125 operators last year helping and providing communications for the event. With an event like this, more operators are needed each year to provide communications for everything from life saving situations to crowd control.

Since amateur radio operators are the primary communications for the MS150 and provide communications on the entire ride from Houston to Austin, operators are assigned with several different groups or they are stationed at different locations along the route. Some of the positions are:

- Break points** Providing communications for supplies and medical problems. Normally a 1 day commitment but depends on your location.
- Medical vehicles** Operators ride in ambulances and First Responder vehicles for emergency communications. This is 2 day commitment
- MS150 Staff** Operators ride with MS150 staff to provide communications for important issues and problems during the ride. This is 2 day commitment
- SAG vehicles** Provided communications for the SAG drivers who are on the course picking up riders that have mechanical problems or that cannot ride. This is 2 day commitment
- Supply Trucks** Provide communications for the supply trucks so supplies can be routed to the needed locations. This is 2 day commitment.
- NET Control** Net controls operations are set up in Houston, Bellville, LaGrange and Austin. There are two NETS running at all times and many operators are needed to cover this very important position. This is a 1 or 2 day commitment depending on your location.
- Houston Command Post** The command post oversees medical incidents, and other problems on the ride. The command post monitors the ride on HF, or VHF or UHF amateur bands. Medical vehicles are tracked with APRS units along the entire course. The command post is set up to receive calls from event personal and emergency services along the route through 800 telephone numbers to coordinate emergency calls and situations. - You can work from 1 hour to two days. The command post is open from midnight Friday to midnight Sunday.
- Motorcycle Hams** If you have a motorcycle and an amateur radio license, you can help out with the Motorcycle group that needs volunteers. With an amateur radio on your motorcycle you can be in contact with the action on the ride. You can contact Jerry Irwin, WA0GLD, at F16Jock@earthlink.net

Volunteers need at least a 2 Meter/VHF radio (dual band preferred) that has at least 25 watts output and a gain type antenna. If you are stationed in a MS vehicle your radio must be easily transferred between any vehicle since you may be moved from one vehicle to another during the ride.

Food and sleeping areas (you need to bring your own bed linens) are provided by the MS150 organization. A secure parking area will be provided for your vehicle. Volunteer hours begin at 4:30 am on April 17 and end around 7 pm on April 18. There will be two information meetings the week before the ride one on April 12th and one on April 14th. For more information please go to www.houstonhams.org or you can sign up at the BP MS 150 Volunteer Signup Page at <http://ms150.org/ms150/volunteer/signup.cfm> .

If you would like more information on the event or how you can help out, please contact me at 713-826-6917 or send an e-mail on the www.houstonhams.org web site

Mike Hardwick, N5VCX
Communications Coordinator, BP MS150 Bike Tour

2005 Club Officers:

President:

Mike Hardwick, N5VCX
n5vcx@worldnet.att.net

Vice President:

Allen Brier, N5XZ
n5xz@arrl.net

Corresponding Secretary/Treasurer:

Ross Lawler, W5HFF
w5hff@yahoo.com

Recording Secretary:

Joe Morgan, K5JWM
k5jwm@att.net

One Year Board Member:

Robert Polanski, KD5YVQ
polinski@swbell.net

Two Year Board Member:

Sid Sherwood, N5ZKD
n5zkd@arrl.net

Past President:

Kevin Foto, KD5O
foto@texas.net

Club Happenings:

General Meeting

Second Thursday each month,
Sugar Land Community Center,
226 Matlage Way

Board of Directors Meeting

First Thursday of each month,
Sugar Land Community Center,
226 Matlage Way

Volunteer Examiner Program

BVARC administers Amateur
License Exams on the 2nd Tuesday
of each month at the HCC Scarcella
Technology Campus,

10141 Cash Rd. in Stafford.
Contact John Moore, KK5NU

Eating Schedule

Third Friday Dinner at 7:30 p.m.
Location announced in the calendar.

Saturday morning breakfasts –

7:30 a.m. New York Coffee Shop
9720 Hillcroft, Houston
7:30 a.m. Viking Den
2939 S. Main, Stafford

Rag Chew Net

3910 KHz +/-3KHz Wednesdays
at 7:00 p.m.

Public Service Net

Monday night on 146.88 (103.5 PL)
at 8:00 PM

Minutes of Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club Board of Directors Meeting

February 03, 2005

Attendees: President Mike Hardwick, N5VCX
Vice President Allen Brier, N5XZ
Treasurer/Corresponding Secretary Ross Lawler, W5HFF
Recording Secretary Joe Morgan, K5JWM
Two-year at large Director Sid Sherwood, N5ZKD
One-year at large Director Robert Polanski, KD5YVQ
Cameron Mitchell, K5CAM

Meeting called to order at 7:37 p.m.

Minutes for January were presented for approval.

Secretary/Treasurer's Report: Ross Lawler presented for approval. There are 4 new members and 2 membership renewals. Total number of members is 101.

New business: We need a new banner for the club. The club is trying to get a new club call, KK5W. Pump, WA5CYI, is in charge of resurrecting the annual club campout/picnic. Ross will be starting ham class again more info on this next month. Ross is looking for volunteer for code classes. Next month will try to have a presentation on repeaters.

Old business: Mix 'n match in March: People need to spread the word with flyers to other clubs and swap meets. Some of the Charlie Whites estate will be at the swapfest. Houston Amateur Radio Supply and Mike Williams of Jubilee Enterprises have committed to being at the meet. Tailgaters will be in back of center. February is new ham month and some demonstrations need to be set up at the meeting.

Other business: Public Service Events-MS150

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Submitted by Recording Secretary Joe W Morgan-K5JWM

BVARC Newsletter Technical content feed back is requested

The editor of the BVARC Rag and the officers of the club would like your opinion. Ask yourself these questions -- What do you want to see, as far as technical content within the B-VARC newsletter? Maybe nothing. Maybe Club news is all that should be in there. Maybe you want to see 'cook book' articles, telling you how, step by step, to build something? Maybe you want to see articles that tell you why it works and you figure out how to build it? Do you like long articles or short 'tech tips' like items?

We welcome your comments or your complaints. Forward them to rhiller@sdicgm.com. Rick – W5RH



Monthly Publication of the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club.
Serving Amateur Radio for Southwest Houston and Fort Bend County
Club Call sign - KC5OIG, W5DPA
BVARC Website: <http://www.hal-pc.org/~bvarc>
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Production Team: Cameron Mitchell, K5CAM, k5cam@arrl.net
Claude Sessions, K5HFY, k5hfy@arrl.net

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 amateur radio club along with an impressive record of public service. The American Radio Relay League (ARRL) has recognized the club's commitment of service with the coveted status of Special Services Club. We are proud of our members who represent 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. Club meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Sugar Land Community Center, 226 Matlege Way. Talk-in assistance for the club meeting is available on the 146.880 repeater (minus offset, 103.5 tone). General membership dues are \$20.00 per year, with student dues \$10.00 per year, addition family members \$2.00 per member per year and life membership \$160.00.

BVARC also administers amateur radio license exams on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at the Houston Community College's Scarcella campus in Stafford. A Public Service Net is held each Monday at 8:00 p.m. on the 146.880 (minus offset with a 103.5 tone) repeater and a rag chew net is held each Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. on 3910 KHz +/- 3 KHz.

To obtain information about joining **BVARC** or its activities contact the club's "Elmer", Ross Lawler, W5HFF at 281-342-3340 or w5hff@yahoo.com or the BVARC website at www.hal-pc.org/~bvarc.

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March 2005

**BRAZOS VALLEY
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
P.O. BOX 1630
MISSOURI CITY TX 77459-1630
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

FIRST CLASS POSTAGE

**Monday Night Public Service Net at 8:00 P.M.
Wednesday Night Rag Chew New at 7:00 P.M.
BVARC Mix-N-Match Swapmeet – March 5 @ 9AM**

*If your mailing label is
highlighted in color its time
to renew your membership!*