



# BRAZOS VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



AMATEUR RADIO FOR SOUTHWEST HOUSTON AND FORT BEND COUNTY

SEPTEMBER 2006

VOLUME 30 ISSUE 9

## OCTOBER GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The featured speaker for the October General Membership Meeting will be Robert Polanski, KD5YVQ who will talk on Grounding and Lightning Protection. The meeting will take place at the Sugar Land Community Center at 7:30 PM, Thursday, September 14.

## ICE CREAM SOCIAL – LOTSA GOODIES

As usual, there was a lot of ice cream to be enjoyed by all attendees. Several even brought homemade ice cream. Others brought cookies and other tasty sweets. Though the weather was threatening with rain earlier, attendance was almost as many as last year.



## NEW MONDAY NIGHT NET FREQUENCY

Note that the Monday Night Net frequency has changed to the repeater on 145.47 MHz, negative offset, PL 123. The alternate repeater is 145.45 MHz, negative offset, no tone. We thank MERA for making the repeater available.

## President's Corner

The first tropical storm of the season hit the US along the east coast. Luckily, the storm was not a major one and damage was limited. With the season half-over, Texas and the Houston area may not see a major storm this year. We can only keep our fingers crossed. However, as amateur radio operators, are we ready for another Rita or Allison or Katrina? The storms that have hit the Gulf coast and Florida over the last few years have caused major damage and a huge loss of life. We, as amateurs, need to be prepared for times like these to help the community. Amateur radio can provide the vital communications that are needed during the clean up and recovery from these major storms. Amateur radio is a vital service and we, as amateur radio operators, should never forget that. If you can spare the time you should get involved with your local ARES or RACES or CERT organizations and be prepared for the next major emergency.

Coming up in the next few months at BVARC will be the Chili supper and club elections in November, Home Brew night in December and the annual club banquet in January. If you would like to volunteer to be on the Board of Directors of BVARC, contact a current BOD director and let him know. Also keep in mind the BVARC awards that will be awarded in January at the banquet. Please go to the web site for more award information.

There are several public service events coming up over the next few months. On September 10 is the Tour de Pink bike ride, October 28 is the Moonlight Ramble and November 12 will be the Novemberfest bike ride. If you are interested in volunteering, please give me a call at 713-771-4625.

Don't forget about putting your radio and license to a good use.

73,

N5VCX

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## GET YOUR FEET WET WEEKEND!

Thursday – Sunday, Sept 15 – 18

Have you ever thought of trying out CW but felt that you might be intimidated by either the speed of others or the protocol. The opportunity to more easily overcome this intimidation is at hand. FISTS is promoting the second annual "Get your Feet Wet Weekend" from 7PM CDT Thursday evening to 7PM Sunday evening (0000 UT, Sept. 15 to 2359 UT Sept 18)

Please note, it actually starts Thursday evening, the night of the BVARC meeting, and goes to Sunday evening, to accommodate various personal weekend plans,

The objective of this is to allow experienced and new CW operators to work with each other and provide an opportunity for newcomers to CW to overcome speed and "what to say" problems. It is actually a VERY laid back contest with "chewing the rag" encouraged for both novice and experienced classes. No automatic keys are allowed.

This is the opportunity to actually use your CW skills in a relaxed way.

One of the really good things about FISTS events is that they suggest frequencies to hover about. Therefore you don't have to scan the whole band to make those "Qs."

Details are given on the FISTS website at [www.fists.org](http://www.fists.org)

You might also be interested in the upcoming technician classes being given by BVARC. Details are given on the next page.

# TECHNICIAN LICENSE CLASSES

September 30 & October 7

An accelerated Technician License Class has been scheduled for later this month.

- This is an 8 hour course consisting of 2 sessions, each 4 hours in duration. They take place on Saturday, Sept. 30 and Sat. October 7. from 9 AM to 1 PM each day. See the BVARC website later this month for the specific location.
- There is no cost for this class. Attendees **WILL BE REQUIRED** to purchase The ARRL Ham Radio License Manual, 1st edition. © 2006, The American Radio Relay League. **DO NOT USE "Now You're Talking" as this is now obsolete. This is the ONLY License Manual that we will accept. The lesson plan is based on this book. These are available at Fry's (sometimes), Electronic Parts Outlet on Fondren (limited supply) and possibly other places in Houston and on-line at [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com). They cost \$25 plus tax/shipping for a total of about \$27+. As authorized ARRL instructors, Ross and John can order these for anyone directly from ARRL at a 25% discount, which includes shipping and no taxes. That is \$18.75 (Make it and even \$19) total each. If so, then we **MUST** have **PAYMENT IN HAND** at least 14 days before the class and they will be delivered at the first class. Please do not "put us on the spot" by asking to pay at the first class. Make checks payable to BVARC.**
- You **MUST** pre-register in order that handouts can be prepared and ample space is provided. We expect a large attendance. Contact Ross Lawler at [W5HFF@yahoo.com](mailto:W5HFF@yahoo.com) or John Chauvin at [K5IZO@yahoo.com](mailto:K5IZO@yahoo.com)
- There is a regularly scheduled BVARC VE License Session the following Tuesday evening, Oct. 10 in Stafford.

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## Houston Amateur Radio Supply

181 Cypresswood Drive

Houston, Texas 77388-6038

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

Monday to Friday 9:00 AM to 5:30 PM

Saturday 9:00 AM to 3 PM

Repair most brands of radios, amps, and other gear  
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<http://texasparadise.com/hars/> George DiLetto KD0RW

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## B-VARC AMATEUR EXAMINATION SESSION

BVARC has amateur examination sessions on the second Tuesday of the month. These are given at the HCC Scarcella Campus on Cash Road. See the BVARC website for details. Results of the August session will be published in the next newsletter.

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## NEW BVARC P.O. BOX

BVARC has a new P.O. mailbox (as of 3 months ago). See the address page.

# Texas QSO Party

*Sent for K5CX by K5OS (Forwarded to BVARC Editor by John Moore, KK5NU)*

*Miles and Miles of Texas* is the theme of this year's Texas QSO Party. Chuck NO5W thanks for reminding us of the brilliance of Bob Wills and the Texas Playboys, and from more recent times, Ray Benson and Asleep at The Wheel for keeping the flame alive musically.

This years event is scheduled for September 23rd and 24th. Please see the September issue of QST, page 95, for details. You can also review all of the details at the Texas QSO Party website: <http://www.txqp.org>

Plaque sponsorships are also available. Please see <http://www.txqp.org/award.htm> and <http://www.txqp.org/awdsponsor.htm> for details. A number of clubs and individuals have already purchased plaques for 2006. However, a number of sponsorships are still available.

Next if you plan to operate portable or mobile, please send your routes to [tqproutes@txqp.org](mailto:tqproutes@txqp.org) . Remember that our objective is to put as many counties on the air during the event period as possible as well as having more fun than you can imagine. Bill Buoy N5BIA, our Web Master, will post your route for others to use in their route planning.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all of the 2005 entrants, for the great job they did to keep the Texas QSO Party on the air in light of the two major hurricanes (Katrina and Rita) last year. The total number of entrants was half the number of more recent years, but the spirit was still there!

Finally, thanks in advance to the Texas QSO Party committee: Walter Hock KK5LO -Rules; Joe Sokolowski KD5KR -Finance; Chuck Sanders NO5W -Scoring; Norm Covey K5OS -Publicity, and Bill Buoy N5BIA - WebMaster.

Good luck everyone. See you on the air!

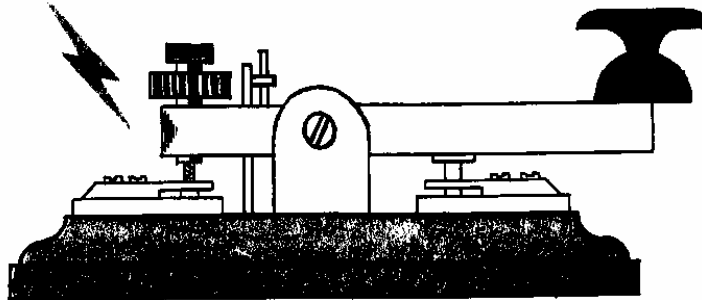
H. O. Townsend - K5CX  
Coordinator, TQP

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## CODE CLASS PROGRESS

As this issue goes to press, we have had 3 of the 4 code class sessions. We have the largest class that we have ever had – about 10 attendees. Several of the attendees already hold their General or Extra Class License, but want to “really” learn code so they can begin practically using it as one of many modes that they have available to them.

See the article on page 2 about the Get Your Feet Wet Weekend.





**NEW & SURPLUS ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS**

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SURPLUS INVENTORIES  
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Southwest Houston  
Between Richmond & Westpark

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## Monday Night NET Updates

Don't forget that the Monday Night Public Service Net starts at **8 pm**, 145.47 (PL -123). 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. Here are recent check-ins with control-ops:

2/13 - 30 - Mike, n5vcx	4/17 - 17 - John, k5lkj	7/3 - 13 - Cam, k5cam
2/20 - 21 - Sid, n5zkd	5/1 - 23 - Cam, k5cam	7/10 - Doug, kc5vyz
2/27 - 23 - Pete, kd5qpx	5/8 - 17 - Mike, n5vcx	7/17 - 18 - Sid, n5zkd
3/6 - 24 - Cam, k5cam	5/20 - 13 - Pete, kd5qpx	7/24 - 15 - Pete, kd5qpx
3/13 - 22 - Pete, kd5qpx	6/5 - 12 - Cam, k5cam	7/31 - 18 - John, k5lkj
3/20 - 19 - Sid, n5zkd	6/12 - 17 - Doug, kc5vyz	8/7 - 29 - Cam, k5cam
3/27 - 24 - Pete, kd5qpx	6/19 - 17 - Sid, n5zkd	8/14 - 20 - Bill, ke5cut
4/3 - 23 - Cam, k5cam	6/26 - 15 Pete, kd5qpx	8/21 - 22 - Bill, ke5cut

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## Balloon Launch Scheduled for September 9th by Allen Mattis N5AFV

The South Texas Balloon Launch Team plans to launch BLT-22 on Saturday, September 9, 2006, at 10 AM from the Wharton, Texas, airport.

Pay loads planned for BLT-22 include:

- Multicam Live Main Payload Color ATV = 1255 FM
- Crossband FM Repeater Uplink = 147.435 & Downlink = 446.000
- APRS GPS Downlink = 440.950 W5ACM-9 250 mW
- Backup APRS GPS Downlink = 445.925 W5ACM-8 300 mW
- 35-mm Camera with a picture every 160 seconds
- Audio Beeper

The launch coordination frequency will be 147.435 MHz. Further information may be found at <http://www.qsl.net/w5acm/b22.html>.

## “In the Mean Time – Cycle 24”

By Rick Hiller – W5RH

*Note: Recent news from NASA is that a reversed magnetic polarity sun spot, an indicator of a possible new cycle star, has been spotted recently. Read more, especially about Hale’s Law, at [http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2006/15aug\\_backwards.htm](http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2006/15aug_backwards.htm)*

My article in last month’s newsletter about the approaching solar cycle #24 didn’t really come to any conclusion. But then, neither did the scientific articles from which it was quoting. One fact is for certain: no matter what number the solar roulette wheel spins to in the end, the down trough, which we are in now, will last for some time yet. We may start to come out of it early next year, but even then, it will be a fair amount of time before the HF bands are back to normal.

So....as the Russians say, “shtoe deyellitz”....”What to do?”.

We could certainly all sit around moaning and groaning about the bad HF band conditions. But that is like complaining about the heat outside. It is August and we are in Houston, so heat is expected – duh! It will get cooler soon, but in the mean time, change your activity to work around the heat. Fortunately, within Ham Radio, there are many other things to replace on the air HF activities. We can use this time to research, design, build and test new equipment and antennas, so that when the numbers do rise we will be “ready at the gate” to launch our RF skyward. Alternate activities abound: I have highlighted just a few in the following paragraphs.

The satellite folks don’t worry about the solar cycle. Their RF at 2 meters and above goes right through the ionosphere and they make contacts all year long. They don’t even hiccup at the semi-annual equinox that aligns the sun with the Clarke belt, which puts many earth station receivers into saturation with increased noise temperature. The FM sats and other lower earth orbit birds (LEO’s) travel in non-geo-synchronous paths, so they are virtually all over the sky. Allen, N5AFV, has written some great articles in past BVARC newsletters <http://bvarc.freeshell.org/bulletin.htm> and has put on some darn good demos at meetings and Ham Fests in order to whet your appetite for bird oriented DX chasing. The local AMSAT net is on 145.31 Tuesday evening at 8PM. Check it out at <http://www.amsatnet.com/>

Our President, Mike, N5VCX, and others, perform the admirable Public Service events that will also get you out and operating. Most are VHF and UHF Repeater based operations. With the potential of operating out on the remote repeater fringes (ie. out of town bike rides), there is plenty of system design and customization of your rigs and their power systems to keep you busy. Also, antennas become most important out there, so it is imperative to build a portable, high gain antenna system so that you can be heard. These events happen all year long and from what I see, Mike is always looking for volunteers to have some fun....and you might also get to operate your rig. (hi) E-mail Mike to be put on his Public Service Events newsletter list -- [n5vcx@worldnet.att.net](mailto:n5vcx@worldnet.att.net) .

If you are more into the theory and technology side of things, look into antenna modeling to start designing and building antenna system components, build and program a Software Defined Radio (SDR), or run some of the new digital message modes that are in use by ARES and RACES and get involved with those groups. Amateur TV, Balloon Launch Team or the Roadrunner Microwave group are 3 other local SIG’s (special interest groups) with monthly activity. Balloon launch BLT-22 is coming up quick. September 9<sup>th</sup> -- <http://www.qsl.net/w5acm/b22.html>

But, if you are a really dyed-in-the-wool HF’er, I’m not saying to not get on HF; please do so, as often as possible. What you won’t find however, is that juicy DX, continuously booming in from all over the globe. Even the trans-equatorial paths are not so hot these days. Things aren’t totally shut down though. Bill, KE5CUT, says that 10 meters is opening every once in awhile, and don’t forget the B-VARC Rag chew net – every Wednesday evening at 7PM on 3910 KHz.



You will find other HF activity of the local, state-side variety too. Contesting is always popular, with one particular form really generating activity these days -- QRP Sprints. BVARC member, Andy, W5ASM, does very well in these. Other BVARC members like Mack, W5EET, and me, W5RH, also participate. Other typical activity consists of the first Monday of the month Adventure Radio Society Sprint, the weekly QRP-L fox hunts and the Flying Pigs "Run for the Bacon". These sprints, or mini-contests, not only get you on the air, but they also encourage you to build your own radios and get out into the "portable" world of operation. QRP-TTF and FYBO ("To The Field" and "Freeze Your Buns Off") are just two of the outdoor oriented, mini-contests that will keep you busy. The local H-QRP, Houston-QRP Group <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/HQRP/> does quite a few 'in the park' operations on Saturday mornings throughout the year, in case you don't want to venture out there into the wilds by yourself.

So, turn over a new rock. There are many things to do in Ham Radio even when the solar cycle is in the trough. The numbers will start to increase soon enough and then there will be plenty of on the air HF activity. Just use these next few months to prepare, and when that time comes, you'll have more fun working those VK's on 17 meters mobile or working KH6's QRP from your tent in the East Texas woods. But, in the mean time, explore some other corners of our wonderful, multi-faceted Ham Radio hobby. You'll be glad you did.

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## THE BVARC Rag Chew Net

*By Joe Morgan, K5JWM, Net Coordinator*  
July 2006 check-ins  
3910 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 B-VARC 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.

07/05/06\_\_K5JWM, KB5SIT, KB5ELT, W5UHZ, K5CEK, N5CPA, KE5CUT, W5RH, WB5VYR, K5HFY. Check-ins (10)

07/12/06\_\_K5JWM, KB5SIT, N5CPA, K5CEK, KE5SR, W5UHZ, K5LJ, WA2PCY, K5VRJ, AB5BA, KJ5SS, KD5THJ.  
Check-ins (12)

07/19/06\_\_K5JWM, KB5SIT, K5CEK, KE5SR, W5UHZ, WA2PCY, NM5K, KJ5SS, K5LJ, KE5CUT, N5DTT, K5VRJ,  
AB5BA, W5SOL. check-ins (14)

07/26/06\_\_K5JWM, KB5SIT, N5CPA, KE5SR, K5CEK, K5LBU, KJ5SS, W5UHZ, AB5BA, K5VRJ, KE5CUT, N0JAA,  
WA2PCY. Check-ins (13)

# Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club

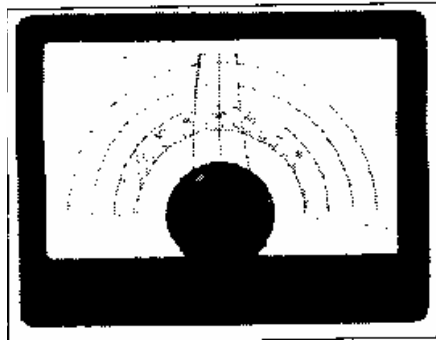
## Minutes of August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2006 meeting; Board of Directors

Mike Hardwick called the monthly Board of Directors meeting for The Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club to order at 7:30 PM on August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2006 at Live Oak Grill, 12935 Dairy Ashford, Sugar Land.

Attending were: Mike Hardwick, N5VCX (Pres.); Allen Brier, N5XZ (V P); Ross Lawler-W5HFF (Treas./Cor. Sec.); Peter Sauermilch, KD5QPX (Rec. Sec.); Robert Polinski, KD5YZQ (1-Yr. Dir.); Cameron Mitchell, K5CAM (At Large); Charles Frost, K5LBU; John Chauvin; K5IZO, Orin Snook; KB5F; Randy Pollard, AK5G

- 1) Minutes for July 2006 meeting were read and approved with amended.
- 2) Secretary/Treasurer's Report was presented to the Board.
  - a) June: Total Assets: \$4,200.80; Total Liabilities: \$789.77; Estimated Savings \$3,200.48
  - b) July: Total Assets: \$4,173.53; Total Liabilities: \$664.527; Estimated Savings \$3,208.38
  - c) August: Total Assets: \$3,710.18; Total Liabilities: \$426.57; Estimated Savings \$3,216.18
- 3) Old Business:
  - a) Extra License Class: Did not make, too few interested.
  - b) Life Member badges/certificates: In progress
  - c) Newsletter: None of the businesses formally approached have responded to request for additional reduction in printing cost.
  - d) Warehouse space: Club still needs about 100 sq. ft. storage space. Sauermilch will approach several self-serve warehouses for donations.
  - e) Mailing List: Two members were not receiving newsletters. Mailing data base being investigated for errors.
  - f) Field Day: Activity finished, considered successful.
  - g) 2007 Hamfest: Sauermilch created a vendor address data base from QST. Chauvin will add vendors who he has contacted directly to said data base and craft a letter. Hardwick will create a mail merge letter set to be sent to potential vendors.
- 4) New business:
  - a) Betty Wilcox, KA0TEN, Al Zamino's (KK5W) widow, has joined the club by sending in her \$20. Lawler proposed that she be made a life member as she made it possible for Al's call to be assumed by BVARC. The board discussed the merits/problems and decided to table action to a future date.
  - b) Lawler made a motion that the club move the Monday Night Net from the 145.05 to the 145.47 repeater after the August General Membership Meeting. There are a number of members who can not get into the 145.05 machine but who can reach the 145.47. Board approved.
- 5) Schedule:
  - a) September: Grounding (tentative)
  - b) October: DX Safari (tentative)
  - c) November: Chili Supper & Elections
  - d) December: Home Brew Night
- 6) Other Business:
  - a) Public Service:
    - i) Tour de Pink: Katy area, September
    - ii) Novemberfest, San Felipe
- 7) Meeting adjourned at 9:06 PM

Submitted by Recording Secretary Peter Sauermilch-KD5QPX





## 2006 Club Officers:

### President:

Mike Hardwick, N5VCX  
[n5vcx@worldnet.att.net](mailto:n5vcx@worldnet.att.net)

### Vice President:

Allen Brier, N5XZ  
[n5xz@arrl.net](mailto:n5xz@arrl.net)

### Corresponding Secretary/Treasurer:

Ross Lawler, W5HFF  
[w5hff@yahoo.com](mailto:w5hff@yahoo.com)

### Recording Secretary:

Pete Sauermilch  
[kd5qpx@arrl.net](mailto:kd5qpx@arrl.net)

### One Year Board Member:

Robert Polanski, KD5YVQ  
[polinski@swbell.net](mailto:polinski@swbell.net)

### Two Year Board Member:

Sid Sherwood, N5ZKD  
[n5zkd@arrl.net](mailto:n5zkd@arrl.net)

### Past President / At-large

Cameron Mitchell, K5CAM  
[k5cam@arrl.net](mailto:k5cam@arrl.net)

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## Club Happenings:

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### 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,  
See the website.

### 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 text of this edition.

### 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 145.47 (XXXX PL) at 8:00  
PM

## BVARC EATING SCHEDULE

### SATURDAY MORNING BREAKFASTS:

NEW YORK COFFEE SHOP, 7:30a.m., 9720 Hillcroft, in Houston.  
VIKING DEN, 7:30a.m., 2939 S. Main (US90A), in Stafford.

### THIRD FRIDAY DINNERS:

For now, this is suspended, due to an illness in the coordinator's family. If someone wants to assume this job temporarily, contact any of the Club Officers as shown on the left.

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## UPCOMING FEATURED PRESENTATIONS

**September – Grounding and Lightning Protection**

**October – Southern Africa DXpeditions.**

**November – Chili Supper**

**December – Homebrew Night**

**January – Annual Awards Banquet**

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## Upcoming Hamfests

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

### **October 7, 2006** Ham Expo -- Belton, Texas

From I-35 take Exit 292 to the Bell County Expo CenteDome  
Friday setup for vendors & pre-registered non-commercial sellers  
Doors open at 7:00 a.m. on Saturday, **October 7**

**NEW!** Admission: \$2.00

**Parking lot Tailgaters will pay \$5.00 per occupied parking space**

<http://www.tarc.org/hamexpo/>

### **21 October -- Brenham Swapmeet**

Washington County Fairgrounds, 1305 East Horton, Brenham, TX.

Talk-in 145.390- (PL 103.5)

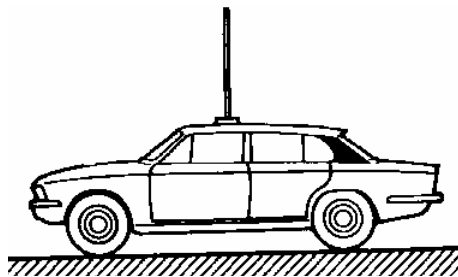
For more info contact

Frian Gaskamp, KA5BKG 979-251-8024 or [ka5bkg@arrl.net](mailto:ka5bkg@arrl.net)

<http://www.alpha1.net/~w5aum>

### **AUSTIN ROUNDUP - Nov. 3 & 4**

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Monthly Publication of the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club.  
Serving Amateur Radio for Southwest Houston and Fort Bend County  
Club Call sign – KK5W  
BVARC Website: <http://www.bvarc.org>  
Editor: John Chauvin, K5IZO, [k5izo@yahoo.com](mailto:k5izo@yahoo.com)  
Production Team: Cameron Mitchell, K5CAM, [k5cam@arrl.net](mailto:k5cam@arrl.net)  
Claude Sessions, K5HFY, [k5hfy@arrl.net](mailto: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 area. BVARC is a Non-Profit Corporation classified by IRS as 501-(c)-(3).

Today **BVARC** is truly a general interest amateur radio club 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 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. General membership dues are \$20.00 per year, with student dues \$10.00 per year, additional 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 p.m. on the 145.47 (minus offset, PL 123 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, contact the club's "Elmer," Ross Lawler, W5HFF at 281-342-3340 or [w5hff@yahoo.com](mailto:w5hff@yahoo.com) or see the BVARC website: [www.bvarc.org](http://www.bvarc.org)

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**VOLUME 30, ISSUE 9**

**September 2006**

**BRAZOS VALLEY  
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
P.O. BOX 2997  
SUGAR LAND, TX 77478-2997  
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

**FIRST CLASS POSTAGE**

**General Membership Meeting – September 14 –  
Grounding and Lightning Protection.**

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