



# BRAZOS VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



AMATEUR RADIO FOR SOUTHWEST HOUSTON AND FORT BEND COUNTY

DECEMBER 2011

VOLUME 35 ISSUE 12

## BVARC December GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

7:30 PM, Thursday, December 8, 2011

234 Matlage Way, Imperial Park Recreation Center, Sugar Land, Texas

### Homebrew & Favorite Equipment Night

The December meeting is your chance to bring out the projects that you designed, built, or modified in 2011 to share with everyone. Following last year's theme, non-builders can bring their favorite piece of ham gear or accessory to demonstrate (or just talk about). Ham Radio equipment and accessories are the main focus, but you can bring any other electronic or mechanical gizmo you use in the shack to display.

If you have any questions about the BVARC Homebrew night please contact our VP – Kirk – KK2Z at [kk2z@arrl.net](mailto:kk2z@arrl.net)

NOTE: The January meeting will be the BVARC 2011 Annual Awards Banquet on Friday January 20th, 2012 from 6:00 PM until 9:30 PM at the Arabia Shrine Center (10510 Harwin Drive). To buy a ticket: [www.bvarc.org](http://www.bvarc.org) Home page right side column, second item (click). In addition to the awards presentations and great food, our guest speaker – Andy MacAllister, W5ACM – will speak on "Half a Century of Radio - From Crystal Sets to Moon Bounce"



## November Meeting Report

The 2011 Chili Master – Jerry Muller KF5EYC – coordinated a great meal for BVARC at our annual Chili Supper. The meeting consisted of the annual elections and the Chili Supper.

Those elected for 2011 are:

- President – Kirk Kendrick, KK2Z
- Recording Secretary – Pete Sauermilch, KD5QPX
- Director at Large (2 year) – David Barber, K5NDB

All other officers and directors remain the same.





## The Presidents Corner

by Rick Hiller – W5RH

One heck of a ride!

Wow, can you believe it? My term as President of BVARC is almost up. The 2 years flew by fast.

So, my personal BVARC roller coaster ride is coming to an end. As of the banquet on January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011, it will be up to Kirk Kendrick, KK2Z, to run the club. He was elected at the November General Membership/Chili Supper meeting. Also elected were David Barber, K5NDB, for 2 Year At-Large Board member and Pete Sauermilch, KD5QPX, for Recording Secretary (re-elected). Thank you to these fine Hams for stepping up(again). Two other changes to the hierarchy of BVARC are that Ross Lawler, W5HFF, is going to fill Kirk's vacated Vice-President's spot and Bob Tomlinson, N5JSL, is taking over the role of BVARC Treasurer from Arnold Knoche, K5ADA, who is retiring from the position. Thank you to these good folks also. My sincere best wishes to the new club officers and Board of Directors members

Arnold, K5ADA, is retiring from Treasurer as his interests have expanded into the gardening realm. He is not giving up Ham Radio, he is simply extending his knowledge base. That is something I look forward to doing when I retire.

Congratulations, Arnold, and thank you, for your many years of service in the Treasurer's spot and the controller of the door and table proceeds for the last 4 (maybe 5?) Greater Houston Hamfests. We are very grateful for and appreciate very much your excellent services for the club.

During my time as President, the club has gotten very active in many things. I would hope that one of the main reasons we did so was that the ever growing membership [now 196 members, as of 11/22/11] wanted to get more involved in the "hobby" of Ham Radio. From the beginning of my term, and even before that, I promoted the philosophy of KISS and KIF – Keep it Simple and Keep it Fun. If it isn't fun, then don't do it. From the looks of it, we have increased our activities and had lots of fun doing the Greater Houston Hamfest, Museum Ships Weekend, ARRL Field Day, Balloon Launch Team support and Astronomy Day. Plus, we had some great presentations at our General membership meetings within the realm of our 2010/2011 presentation mission statement of "GOTA – Get on the Air" ....covering CW, digital modes, test equipment, amplifiers, balloon launches, HF transceivers ..... just the things you want to hear at a Ham Radio club meeting.

Let's talk about our weekly 'on the air' rundown. We have always had an active Monday night VHF net – The BVARC Public Service Net. Also, we have had the Wednesday night Rag Chew Net. These two nets are a chance for you to get on the air on 2 Meters and 80 Meters – both Phone nets. (Info on the BVARC web site) In August of 2010, we launched a 3<sup>rd</sup> net -- the BVARC Under 15 CW Net. The brain child of Tom, W5TOM, and me, it is 45 minutes of Under 15 WPM CW in a formal net format with check-ins and an NCS controlled round table (using the Rag Chew Net format). We have had up to 12 check-ins, but most times it is 6 or so of the "regulars". This has been fun and will continue to be run weekly under my auspices as NCS. Many thanks to all the CW aficionados that have checked-in over the past 16 months.

If you have participated in any of the above mentioned BVARC events, I hope that you have had fun. I hope that these events encouraged you to get on the air, to get involved with a new area of Ham Radio and, in the end, caused you to learn new things and expand your hobby horizons. Stated often in this column, "Ham Radio is not a destination, it is a journey". That journey gets more interesting this month at the annual BVARC Homebrew Night, where members show and tell about their latest building project or favorite piece of equipment. Stop by on December 8<sup>th</sup> at the new meeting place and see what other folks have been building this year.

So with all of the yearly BVARC happenings in mind, I salute you all and say "THANK YOU". Here's to you and your long and information rich Ham Radio journey on the BVARC roller coaster ride. Hang on tight to Ham Radio, hang on to your seat at BVARC, and put both hands on the air when you are on a coaster-based free-fall during whatever activity floats your boat in the hobby. All in all, it is one heck of a ride. I look forward to riding that roller coaster again and again.

Enjoy your hobby. See you on the radio. 73, Rick – W5RH (dit dit)





# **BVARC 2011 Annual Awards Banquet**

**6:00 PM until 9:30 PM -- Friday January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

**Arabia Shrine Center**

**10510 Harwin Drive**

**Houston, TX 77036**

Please join your friends at BVARC for the Annual Awards Banquet.

Arabia Shrine Center is a fantastic venue with plenty of room for all of our members.

*(Note that the event is BYOB (Bring Your Own Bottle). Set-ups will be provided.)*

The evening starts at 6:00 PM with a cocktail/social hour, while we wait for all of our attending members to arrive. Rick Hebert, a sleight of hand, strolling magician will entertain you as you visit with your BVARC friends. At 6:45 PM, we will sit down and have a 15 minute magic show with Rick closing out his banquet attendance. At 7:00 we will start going through the buffet line. At about 8 PM, we will start the festivities as we all enjoy our desert and coffee. Of course, we will do the usual Annual Awards presentations, our President's "State of BVARC" slide show review, followed by our Guest Speaker for the evening -- BVARC member Andy MacAllister, W5ACM, talking about:

## **"Half a Century of Radio - From Crystal Sets to Moon Bounce"**

Join us for an evening of Ham Radio camaraderie and fun.

### *Menu*

*Cocktail hour – BYOB – Set-ups provided (Coke, Diet Coke, Sprite with ice)*

*Appetizers: Fig and Brie on toast & Armadillo eggs*

*Meal: Dinner Salad with Italian or Ranch dressing*

*Chicken Cordon Bleu or Beef Wellington (choice of one)*

*Parsley Buttered Red potatoes*

*Green Beans Almondine*

*Apricot Glazed Carrots*

*Ice Tea and Water*

*Dessert: Cream Puffs with Coffee*

***Purchase tickets at [www.bvarc.org](http://www.bvarc.org)***

***\$20 per member, \$20 for the first guest, \$40 for non-members or 3<sup>rd</sup> guest***

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## THE BVARC Rag Chew Net September check-ins

3910 KHz +/-3KHz Wednesdays at 7:00pm, John Whiteman, K5LKJ, Net Coordinator

10/26/11, K5LKJ (NCS), K5CEK, W5TKZ, K5NDB, N5CPA, W5RH, K5IZO, K5LJ, AF5T, AA5OA, WA5CYI, W5HFF (M) (Sugar Land), K5LBU, WB5PNL (Beach City), WD0EMN, W5RJA (T) (Round Rock), K5HTB. (17 Check-Ins)

Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 132, SN = 121, A = 4, K = 1

11/02/11, K5LKJ (NCS), W5RH, W5TOM, W5TKZ, K5LBU, K5CEK, K5IZO, N5CPA, K5NDB, WS5H, AF5T, K5LJ, WA5CYI, AA5OA (Fort Smith, AK)(P)(T), K5CAM, WB5PNL (Beach City), W5HFF (M)(Houston), KC5JAR (Katy), KA6QDE, \*\*\* (19 Check-Ins)

Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 139, SN = 129, A = 19, K = 3

11/09/11, K5LKJ (NCS), K0NM, AA5OA (Fort Smith, AK)(P)(T), K5NDB, N5CPA, W5TKZ, WB5TMX (DeRitter, LA), KE5OBY (T), K5LJ, AF5T, WN5A, W5RJA (T) (Round Rock), W5HFF (M)(Richmond), KC5JAR (Katy). (14 Check-Ins)

Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 181, SN = 148, A = 8, K = 2

11/16/11, K5LKJ (NCS), K5CEK, K0NM, K5NDB, N5CPA, WA5CYI, W5TKZ, WN5A, WS5H, K5LJ, W5RH, AF5T, WD0EMN, VK2AJB (Sidney, Australia)(R)(T), WB5PNL (Beach City), W5HFF (M)(Richmond), W5TOM, KC5JAR (Katy), KE5OBY.

(16 Check-Ins)

Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 148, SN = 137, A = 7, K = 2

11/09/11, K5LKJ (NCS), K0NM, AA5OA (Fort Smith, AK)(P)(T), K5NDB, N5CPA, W5TKZ, WB5TMX (DeRitter, LA), KE5OBY (T), K5LJ, AF5T, WN5A, W5RJA (T) (Round Rock), W5HFF (M)(Richmond), KC5JAR (Katy).

(14 Check-Ins)

Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 181, SN = 148, A = 8, K = 2

11/23/11, K5LKJ (NCS), K0NM, W5TOM, W5TKZ, WN5A, K5NDB, WS5H, K5LJ, VK2AJB (Sidney, Australia)(R)(T), WB5PNL (Beach City), KC5JAR (Katy), WS5H, W5HEU (Pineville, LA), N5DTT.

(14 Check-Ins)

Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 140, SN = 123, A = 6, K = 1

(M) = mobile (P) = Portable (R) = Relay (T) = telephone check-in

Thanks.

Regards.\_ John Whiteman, K5LKJ



## Monday Night NET Updates

Don't forget the Monday Night Public Service Net starts at **8 pm** on 146.94 (167.9). 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:

8/15 - 28 - Dwayne, kb5yta  
8/22 - 37 - Pete, kd5qpx  
8/29 - 30 - Sid, n5zkd  
9/5 - 32 - Cam, k5cam  
9/12 - 31 - Clint, kd5hdf

9/19 - 32 - Bill, ws5h  
9/26 - 40 - Pete, kd5qpx  
10/3 - 28 - Cam, k5cam  
10/10 - 28 - Clint, kd5hdf  
10/17 - 33 - Dewayne, kb5yta

10/24 - 39 - Pete, kd5qpx  
10/31 - 22 - Sid, n5zkd  
11/7 - 28 - Cam, k5cam  
11/14 - 28 - Clint, kd5hdf  
11/21 - 29 - Dwayne, kb5yta

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## Results of the November 8th BVARC Amateur License Examination Session by: John Moore, KK5NU

B-VARC sponsored and administered the ARRL's Amateur Radio Examination session that was held on Tuesday, November 8, 2011 at HCC's Scarcella Science & Technology Building here in Stafford.

### MEMBERS OF THE VE TEAM:

Dennis Dietrich, W5DDD  
John Moore, KK5NU

Larry Jacobson, K5LJ  
George Ontko, KM5VP

Five examination elements were administered during the evening to five applicants. Two upgrades to General and three upgrades to Amateur Extra class license were attained; with the total number of elements passed being 7. The overall "pass rate" for the evening was 100%.

Congratulations to the following who attained a license and/or passed an exam:

LeMoyne Boyer - KD5JCY - Amateur Extra  
Matthew A. Cuttitta - KB8TUM - Amateur Extra  
Mark A. Fields - {AF5AM} - Amateur Extra  
Harold E. Mignola - K5HEM - General  
Robert E. York Jr - KD5EMA - 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 Science & Technology Building for making these excellent classroom facilities available to us for our exams each month.

..... 73 .....

# River Oaks Car Stereo

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[www.installer.com](http://www.installer.com)

HAM RADIO IS BACK IN HOUSTON AGAIN!



## BVARC "Under 15" CW Net

**Tuesday 7PM**

**3.550 MHz**

Join us for a fun filled 30 to 45 minutes of working the CW mode. We welcome new folks with open ears, so join us. Net is transmitted at 11/15 WPM Farnsworth spacing, so it is easy to copy. The net structure is just like the Rag Chew Net on Wednesday nights. NCS sends the Pre-ambble, then calls for check-ins "QNI?".... and then, after checkins, each station is called "QTT" to invite them to transmit a short greeting or message.

Net Control Station (NCS) is Rick, W5RH, but some nights WS5H, Bill, or others take over, so listen carefully right at 7 PM. Frequency is on 3550 KHz (+/- 3 KHz pending QRM).

Listen to a sample pre-ambble (mp3) on the CW Net web page at <http://bvarc.org/index.php?page=cwnet>  
Just have a listen or join in, but do get on the air and have some fun with some slow speed CW.

## The BVARC CQ World Wide N5XZ CW Challenge

(all in the fun of Radio Sport)

The weekend of November 26 and 27 was not only the end of the Thanksgiving Day holiday stretch, but it was also the weekend for one of the best DX based contests in the year. CQ World Wide CW Contest took place from our Friday night at 6PM until our Sunday night at 5:59:59 PM.

Not only was there a world-wide DX Contest, but within that contest there was a BVARC rivalry competition – The BVARC CQWW CW Challenge – a challenge to beat N5XZ's score and "burn his toast". The challenge was defined at our November Chili Supper by Nizar, K0MN. At that point Allen, N5XZ, spotted Nizar, and anyone he could muster, a 500 QSO handicap. He, N5XZ, would single handedly take on the BVARC CW gang. So, the call was put out and 11 BVARC Hams rose to the occasion. This all started because we have been practicing our CW on the "BVARC Under 15 CW Net" (on Tuesday nights – see web site for details). When the electronic keyer dust had settled, the reports came trickling in.

I have the pleasure of providing those totals now. (Not in any particular order)

### BVARC Team CW

<u>Call</u>	<u>Contest QSO Count</u>
K5NDB	48
AF5T	18
WS5H	148 (10 Meters Only)
K5CAM	31
K5LBU	187
N5DTT	25
W5RH	45
K5LJ	145
K5IZO	308
W5TKZ	101
<u>NONM</u>	<u>231</u>
Sub --total	1287

+N5XZ Handicap 500

**Total 1787 Q's for BVARC Team CW**

**Allen, N5XZ, claims a count of 1660**, so his toast is quite burnt. Team CW succeeds.

Now, 11 ganging up on one, short fellow is not fair odds, until you see Allen, N5XZ, in CW motion. He is a master of the CW contest form. Utilizing the latest in RF technology, an Elecraft K3, along with a 40 thru 10 SteppIR at 70 Feet and plenty of power from the Alpha, Allen is a downright wizard of the airwaves when contesting.

Allen, told me that this was not a serious effort, as he had relatives in town and that kept him away from the radio. He has, however, thrown out another challenge for the ARRL DX Contest in the Spring. He said that he would get serious for that one. So, if he wasn't serious for the CQWW Challenge and did 1660 Q's, just how many will he do when he IS serious? Join BVARC Team CW and find out, because we intend to take him on.

Thanks to those who participated and made this yet another fun filled BVARC "On The Air" event!

*Editor's Note: Yea, yea, yea. We all saw the excuses coming. Big Al had to know about his relatives visiting before he agreed to the Challenge. I could have made a lot more Qs also, but I didn't get back from San Antonio until 3 hours into the contest. I also had the wrong software. I didn't return from San Antonio until around 9PM. I was tired from 2 days with the grandson and driving back.. Did I say that I didn't get back from San Antonio until after the contest was well underway? . . . . etc. ad nauseam!*



### **BVARC Historical Vignettes – 1983 Order of the Key Award Allen Mattis N5AFV, Club Historian**

As most club members know, the Order of the Key Award is the highest and most prestigious BVARC award. The early club newsletters do not tell how the award originated, but we do know that the Order of the Key Award is unique to BVARC, and that it was conceived by a club member. BVARC was founded in 1977, and the first Order of the Key Award was bestowed on Bob Spradling, W5UBD, in 1980. Spradling, president of BVARC in 1980, was the fourth president of the club.

In 1983 the Order of the Key was awarded to two members and the recipients were Wade Eilers, WN5TEN, and Steve Gottlieb, WA5OEN. The award was presented to them at the January 1984 banquet held at the Swinging Door Restaurant in Richmond. Eilers was president of BVARC in 1979, and Gottlieb was club president in 1983. Ron Bolyard, KA5GYG, the 1984 BVARC president presented the awards.

(Continued next page)



(Left to Right) Steve Gottlieb WA5OEN, Ron Bolyard KA5GYG and Wade Eilers WN5TEN at the Swinging Door Restaurant in Richmond, January 1984

We do not know who conceived of the idea for the Order of the Key Award or what circumstances prompted the Board of Directors at the time to establish the award. Even though these historical facts from the very early days of the club are unknown to us, we continue to confer the Order of the Key Award on those members whose service and commitment to the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club has been exceptional and outstanding. A special thank you is owed to Steve Gottlieb, WA5OEN, for providing the photograph



### Minutes of November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2011 Board of Directors meeting of the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club:

Rick Hiller called the monthly Board of Directors meeting for the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club to order at 7:00 PM on November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2011 at Fudrucker's, 11445 Fountain Lake Drive, Stafford. Attending were: Rick Hiller, W5RH (Pres.); Kirk Kendrick, KK2Z (V.P.); Arnold Knoche, K5ADA (Treas.); Bob Tomlinson, N5JSL (Cor. Sec.); Peter Sauermilch, KD5QPX (Rec. Sec.); Bill Stone, WS5H (1yr At-Large Dir.); Eddie Runner, NU5K (Webmaster); Suzanne Runner, KF5GWZ; Norma Stone, KE5NDN; Sharon Tomlinson, KF5HUF; Cameron Mitchell, K5CAM; Charles Frost, K5LBU; and Jerry Muller, KF5EYC.

1. Minutes for the October 2011 meeting were approved as previously distributed by email and appears in the November 2011 newsletter.
2. Treasurer's Report was presented to and approved by the Board.
3. VP Report, Meetings:
  - 3.1. November: Chili Supper and Elections.
  - 3.2. December: Home Brew.
  - 3.3. January: Banquet
  - 3.4. February, March, April: To Be Determined
4. Old business:
  - 4.1. Wish List:
    - 4.1.1. ARRL still has not rendered an opinion on Spectrum Defense by 501(c)3 organizations.
    - 4.1.2. Board decided to table discussion until December meeting.
  - 4.2. Election: We will use the roster as appears on the web site as the official list of club members.
  - 4.3. Chili Supper: Muller listed what he knew as food committed for supper.
  - 4.4. Banquet: Hiller has almost completed arrangements for the Shriner's facility at Harwin and BW8. It will be a larger space better suited for our Banquet at a lower price. Andy McAlester, W5ACM, has agreed to be the speaker.
  - 4.5. Clothing: Ham Threads is offering additional specials until end of year.
5. New business, Greater Houston Hamfest:
  - 5.1. 2010 prepayment/deposit was \$2,850.
  - 5.2. Board approved \$2,850 for the 2011 prepayment/deposit.
6. Meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM

Submitted by Recording Secretary, Peter Sauermilch, KD5QPX



2011 Club Officers:

President:

Rick Hiller, W5RH  
[rhiller@sdicgm.com](mailto:rhiller@sdicgm.com)

Vice President:

Kirk Kendrick, KK2Z  
[kmkendrick@gmail.com](mailto:kmkendrick@gmail.com)

Corresponding Secretary  
Robert Tomlinson, N5JSL  
[rbtswim@gmail.com](mailto:rbtswim@gmail.com)

Treasurer:

Arnold Knoche, K5ADA  
[jakadaok@aol.com](mailto:jakadaok@aol.com)

Recording Secretary:

Pete Sauermilch, KD5QPX  
[kd5qpx@arrl.net](mailto:kd5qpx@arrl.net)

Board Member:

Dywane Jones, KB5YTA  
[dwayneredhonda@gmail.com](mailto:dwayneredhonda@gmail.com)

Board Member:

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

At Large Board Member

(One year – vs Past President):  
Bill Stone, WS5H  
[dragntow@wt.net](mailto:dragntow@wt.net)

Club Happenings:

General Meeting

Second Thursday each month, 7:30 PM  
Imperial Park Recreation Center,  
234 Matlage Way.

Board of Directors Meeting

First Thursday of each month, 7:00 PM  
Fuddruckers, just South of the Fountains  
Shopping Center on US 59 outbound..

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  
[jwm@hal-pc.org](mailto:jwm@hal-pc.org)

Eating Schedule

See in adjacent column.

Rag Chew Net

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

Public Service Net

Monday night on 146.94 (PL 167.9) at 8:00 PM

Under 15 CW Net

Tuesday night, 7PM, 3.550 MHz



## BVARC EATING SCHEDULE

### SATURDAY MORNING BREAKFAST

59 DINER, 7:00a.m., SW Freeway outbound service road, near  
Kirkwood.

NEW YORK COFFEE & BAGEL SHOP, 7:30a.m., 9720 Hillcroft.

### THURSDAYS BEFORE CLUB MEETINGS--6.15p.m.

VASOS BAR-B-Q, 9920 Hwy. 90-A, #D-120 on the SW corner of  
US Hwy. 90-A and Dairy Ashford.

### OTHER HAM GROUPS:

#### WEDNESDAYS – WEDNESDAY LUNCH BUNCH

LUBY'S CAFETERIA, 10:30a.m. to 12:00Noon +, 9797 South Post Oak  
Road, just south of the I-610 Loop in Meyer Park Shopping Center.

#### WEDNESDAYS – AMSAT & QRP GROUP

PAPPAS BAR-B-Q, 11.30a.m., SW corner Westheimer & Gessner.



## Hamfests

(within 200 miles of Houston)

Hamfest info for the next few months. More information at:

<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests.html#listing>

### San Antonio Amateur Radio Fiesta – January 14, 2012

**Location:** Schertz, TX

**Sponsor:** San Antonio Radio Club

**Website:** <http://w5sc.org>

### Greater Houston Hamfest – March 3, 2011

**Location:** Rosenberg, TX

**Sponsor:** Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club

**Website:** [www.houstonhamfest.org](http://www.houstonhamfest.org)





Monthly Publication of the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club.  
Serving Amateur Radio for Southwest Houston and Fort Bend County  
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BVARC Website: <http://www.bvarc.org>  
Editor: John Chauvin, K5IZO, [k5izo@yahoo.com](mailto:k5izo@yahoo.com)  
Production Team: Cameron Mitchell, K5CAM, [k5cam@arri.net](mailto:k5cam@arri.net)

**Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club (BVARC)** was organized in 1977, 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 Imperial Park Recreation Center, 234 Matlage 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 \$200.00.

**BVARC** also administers amateur radio license exams on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 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 146.94 (minus offset, PL 167.9 tone) repeater & a rag chew net is held each Wednesday at 7 p.m. on 3910 KHz +/- 3 KHz.

To obtain information about joining **BVARC** or its activities, 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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**DECEMBER 2011**

**BRAZOS VALLEY  
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
P.O. BOX 2997  
SUGAR LAND, TX 77487-2997  
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**FIRST CLASS POSTAGE**

BVARC General Membership Meeting – December 8

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