



BVARC BEACON



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

MARCH 2019

VOLUME 43 ISSUE 3

BVARC MARCH GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Thursday, March 14. at 7:30 p.m. at the Sugar Land Masonic Lodge, 421 Eldridge Rd, Sugar Land, 77478.

As this issue goes to press, this information is not available. Please check the website for updates. There will certainly be a BRIEF mention of the Greater Houston Hamfest (ARRL TEXAS STATE CONVENTION) which takes place on Saturday, March 23.



Report on the February General Membership Meeting

As this issue goes to press, this report is not available.



FEBRUARY VOLUNTEER EXAMINER - FCC TESTING SESSION RESULTS

For the Saturday February 9th test session: We had one candidate, Joel Elkins, who successfully passed both the Technician (Element 2) and General (Element 3) tests in one sitting. He is now KI5DJQ. Congratulations Joel! A great thank you also goes out to the VEs in attendance.

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

There will also be three sessions at the Greater Houston Hamfest, on Saturday March 23rd at the Fort Bend County Fairgrounds. Successful candidates will get free admission to the Hamfest.

Details for candidates are found at www.bvarc.org/home/amateur-license/

Call Mark Janzer, K5MGJ at (832) 875-0526 or eMail: (k5mgj@yahoo.com) to pre-register.

The Prez Says

With less than one month to go for the Greater Houston Hamfest, everyone is on track for a great event. The planning committee is working around the clock to organize another great event. There are still a ton of things that need to be done to make the March 23rd Hamfest successful. Set-up day will be on Friday and the Hamfest will be on Saturday. We will have many activities again this year including two balloon launches and a fox hunt. Also, this year, BVARC will be primarily responsible for all the radio license testing for the HamFest, thanks to Mark Janzer, K5MGJ and the VEs

Of course, to make the event a success, we need volunteers. So, if you are interested in helping out, contact me and let me know. There will be Hamfest meetings two weeks before the 23rd. event so keep checking your e-mail and the BVARC web site for the meeting location and time.

Also coming up is the BP MS150 Bike Ride. Volunteers are always needed for this event. Please check the www.bpms150hams.org web site for more information. There will be two or three information/training sessions so check the web site. For the event we need volunteers both on the course and at the Houston Command Post. You will be able to sign up on the web site to help out. Come on out and put your radio and license to a good use.

And Mark Janzer, K5MGJ (boy, isn't he busy) is working hard for Museum Ships Weekend on the USS Stewart and USS Cavalla in Galveston. He is planning to have a planning activity on the ships in the next few weeks. Mark has worked hard on getting things ready MSWE. Interest is high again this year since we have returned to the USS Stewart to operate. If you can help for MSWE, let Mark know. I know we will be up and ready for the event in June. Thanks again Mark for your hard work.

Field Day is just around the corner and now is the time to start getting prepared for it. We will be a four club event again this year so we are getting ready for a big event. This is still getting confirmed and will be published in the next newsletter. We will be at Duhacsek Park again this year which gives us twice the operating space and 5 times the parking space. Scott Medbury, KD5FBA (he doesn't know that yet so don't tell him) has stepped up to coordinate the event and, as always, Bill Cordell, W5VOM, has jumped in to be the Master of Radio Energy distribution. Please contact Scott or Bill and let them know you can help. Don't be bashful, step up and volunteer for the great club event.

And last but not least is a picture of yours truly's portable HF station. While in Austin for a training class, I set-up my FT-817 for the Wednesday night net. I really knew it would not work but it was fun to just set the equipment up.



Hope to see everyone at the March meeting or at the Greater Houston Hamfest.

73,
N5VCX



18th Annual

March 23rd, 2019

GREATER HOUSTON HAMFEST 2019 ARRL



TEXAS STATE CONVENTION

Admission : Advanced \$8.00 At the Door \$10.00

Children under 12 Free!

Scouts, Military and First Responders in uniform - Free!

Tables \$25 each Free Electricity Tailgate - Free!

Two Balloon Launches!

Friday, March 22nd, 2019

Table Set-up 12:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Talk-in
146.94
167.9 tone

Saturday, March 23rd, 2019

Programs 7:00 am to 3:30 pm

Sales 8:00 am to 2:00 pm

Grand Prize Raffle 2:00 pm

Testing 9:00 am, 11 am & 1 pm

Tailgate 6:00 am to 3:30 pm

Programs and Speakers

ARRL FORUM - ED HARE, W1RFI, ARRL LABORATORY MANAGER, JOHN STRATTON, N5AUS, WEST GULF DIVISION DIRECTOR
PAUL GILBERT, KE5ZW, SOUTH TEXAS SM

ARES District 14 Meeting - Jeff Walter, KE5FGA

Balloon Program & Launch - Andy McAllister, W5ACM

SMD Soldering - Donovan Bali, KG5BDZ

Amateur Radio and Grounding - ABR Industries

Tornado Alert Alert - Micky Lee

South Texas Balloon Launch Team - Andy MacAllister, W5ACM

Houston Area Hospital Emergency Communications Group - Linda Kangas, W5LDK

GRAND PRIZE

Convention Prize

Raffle 1st Prize

Raffle 2nd Prize

Icom IC-7300

ANYTONE AT-D878UV



RV Parking Available

Ham Radio License Testing!

Raffle Tickets \$2.00 Each Raffle Drawing at 2:00 pm
Door Prizes \$1.00 Each Hourly drawing starts 9:00 am
Raffle tickets can only be purchased on site.

Fort Bend County Fairgrounds, 4310 Texas-36 Rosenberg, TX 77471

29°31'12" N 95°48'38" W

👉 www.HoustonHamfest.org 👈

2019 flyer ver 2.3

The Radio Hotel

Due to a death in the author's family, this article will not appear this month. Look for it to return, hopefully next month.



Classified Ads:

As another benefit of membership, BVARC allows members to publish a free classified ad in the BEACON. Of course, it can have no commercial interests, be only sales of personal items, and be related to ham radio. Simply send an e-mail to the Editor with the requested text. This is not to be confused with the paid commercial ads that are also available.



Museum Ships - Galveston

Museum Ships Weekend is June 1st and 2nd, 2019.

We're currently working on the configuration and estimate – to present to the museum board – for the split A/C system for the radio room (et al).

The MSWE pre-mobilization will be Saturday April 13th from 9am to 1pm

We'll be erecting TDXS's SteppIR vertical to pre-test the configuration, through to our temporary operating position in the forward portion of the bunk/kitchen on the Stewart.



The Great Harvey Wells Caper

Part 2

By Ron Litt, K5HM

I stared at her for a long time. A pristine beauty with big black eyes and creamy white face. She looked back at me from the magazine. A salty trail of perspiration formed on my upper lip. Six months earlier, I discovered her buried in the back pages of QST. Each month as a new issue arrived, I grabbed it, turned quickly to the ad to be sure she was still there; the Harvey Wells Band Master Z-Match Antenna Coupler. I had to have it.

For the last two years I had one single band antenna for 20 meters. It was great, but I was getting close to my WAS and I needed practically all the New England states. Connecticut and New Jersey were almost impossible from New York City without a 40 or 80 meter antenna. I was desperate.

As a 17-year-old kid with no car and no money, I had next to no social life. You might convince a chick to take the subway ride to night court in lower Manhattan to see the evening folk routinely scooped up by the cops get arraigned. Or take the Staten Island Ferry for a nickel moonlight cruise across the harbor. After that, your options for a second date were badly limited without personal mobility.

My life was like a fully charged electrolytic capacitor; ham radio was my only way to bleed off the stored energy. The informal Saturday Night Nerd net was regularly attended by the guys from high school that couldn't get a date. I was a regular member. We lasted until one or two in the morning talking about antennas and Q-multipliers and Collins gear we could never afford. It was my only relief from the teen age hormones running amok.

In those days the \$70 price for the coupler was beyond astronomical. It cost more than a senior prom date! Day after day, I sunk deeper into depression. The kind only pubescent teenagers know when they are rejected by the head of the cheerleading squad. Little did I suspect salvation was at hand. The very next Saturday, fate struck a blow right out of left field, KAPOW!

I had gone to Saturday breakfast with the Queens County Bagel, Bowling and Spark Club (QCBB&SC). For about the twentieth time, I bent my old buddy Ralph's ear about the Harvey Wells Coupler. Ralph, the greatest Elmer of all time, listened patiently while preparing his bagel. I whined on for five full minutes. He was quiet but nodded appropriately and grunted in assent when I paused for a breath.

Precision was Ralph's key to fame as a ham. He could lay down 25 turns on a coil form without a gap or an overlap; as if it had come from a machine. So too, Ralph had a system for preparing a bagel with cream cheese and lox. Like brain surgeon, he spread the cream cheese evenly, carefully leaving no space uncovered; trimming any excess cheese that drooped over the edges. Then he layered the lox on top, using a fork to mash down the smoked fish so it was buried into the cream cheese.

Finally, he looked me straight in the eye and said, "Listen kid." Everybody was a kid to Ralph. "Whyncha go home and work the South Dakota QSO Party? There's only two hams in the whole state. You might get lucky."

Lucky? I hadn't gotten that lucky, since I got to second base with Wanda Louise Schwartzberg on the ferry ride a month ago, but I needed South Dakota for WAS. This might be the day. I threw down a couple bucks for my share of the bill and took off for the bus stop.

I had just bounded up the front steps and into the house when the old man hit me with the letter. The mail had arrived early this day and clutched in his trembling hand was the dreaded pink ticket. "You better take care of this", he said. The old man didn't get the enormity of transgression that a pink ticket represented. But he knew that anything that came in an envelope with no stamps and "Official Business" printed on it was trouble. As far as he was concerned, I was as good as being carted off to Leavenworth.

Without uttering a word, I snatched the letter from his hand, turned and fled down the basement stairs. I had to figure out what to do. I sat for a long time; thinking. The U.S. phone band ended at 14200 KC. Most of the good DX was always just below that great divide. We worked split back then, running full carrier double sideband AM, pushing as close to the band edge as we dared, calling for that DX station we needed on the other side.

Late at night, my stubby little fingers would be numb as I gripped the band spread knob and tuned my receiver into the low end of 20 meters. Across the electronic wall at 14200 KC between the U.S. phone and CW bands. You could hear them calling CQ; siren's voices from places like Australia, Tahiti, Japan and Pitcairn. It was a drug. The call signs and those strange accented voices from exotic places drew me in. I had to make the contact.

From 14205 and down the QRM was like shock and awe in the Iraq war. Screaming heterodynes beating against one another. Guys over-modulating their rigs and the infamous Kalifornia Kilowatts tuning up. Kaah-Chunk! Hello Test . . .Hello TEST...HEELLLO Test...1,2,3,4...4,3,2,1! Okay, okay, I know you can count already. Night after winter's night I spent in my chilly basement shack looking for that rare one on 20 meters. The only warmth came from the glow of the parallel 6146's in the final and the 807 modulator tubes.

Finally, I snapped out of my reverie and mustered the courage to call my old buddy Ralph on the land line. I laid it all out about the pink ticket. In one breath, I unloaded on Ralph non-stop. There was silence for an eternity. "Listen kid", he began; his voice had a way of piercing through the QRM in my head. "You just need an accurate marker for the band edge. A crystal calibrator. You can pick one up at Harrison Radio for about ten bucks."

"Hey Ralph", I said. "What about the letter I have to write? What should I say?" Ralph started in again, "Just tell them the truth kid, you'll be fine. See you later kid." And then there was a click. That's it? Tell them the truth? Somewhere from the dark reptilian part of my desperate brain, the thread of a diabolical plan began to form. A way to solve my FCC problem and snag the Z-Match in the bargain.

Anyone who has ever gotten a pink ticket will tell you it is a serious matter. In my kid mind it was like getting called to Mr. Murphy's office. Mr. Murphy was the Vice Principal at Millard Fillmore High School. Like the FCC, he knew everything. He was the most feared man at school. It was rumored that he had some medieval torture mechanism in his office. A relic from the Spanish Inquisition that would make the toughest kid confess. Just like the FCC, when you went to see the Vice Principal, you had to confess your transgression, explain why and then describe how it was never, ever going to happen again.

I spent the rest of the day composing the response to the FCC notice. I pulled out my No.2 Dixon Ticonderoga, the same pencil I use in my logbook. The same pencil that was an accomplice to my crime. Its penance would be to help me contrive this document of contrition. I began writing and correcting phrases; adding more verbiage where it was needed.

I skipped lunch and supper. Skipping meals did not sit well with Mom who believed that food was the solution to every problem. I was hungry but I didn't want to stem the creative juices while they were flowing. Mostly, I wanted to avoid the old man until I was ready.

It was a work of classic prose worthy of the Pulitzer Prize. In the first part, I acknowledged my crime; pled guilty and promised not to do it again. I said, I'm sorry three times in the first paragraph. In the second part, I described what I was going to do. Purchasing a crystal calibrator, using it to mark the band edge and NEVER operate any closer than three kc from the marker. Then I really poured it on. I swore to check my receiver monthly against WWV, recalibrate my VFO and receiver every 90 days. I even promised to buy a crystal for 14.203 in the event my VFO became unstable.

Then, in the midst of my epistle of contrition, I slipped in a tiny little paragraph about adding an antenna impedance matcher, like the Harvey Wells Band Master Z-Match Coupler. I went on for a couple of sentences about how it would eliminate spurious emissions and reduce any TVI.

There it was! My secret was out. I was betting on the TVI thing because the old man hated most of the neighbors and he didn't want any of them complaining to the cops, let alone the FCC! I finished the letter with a recap of the whole incident and how it would never happen again . . . ever. Finally, it was ready for typing.

As a southpaw, my handwriting was beyond bad. I was the only kid in Mrs. Shapiro's fourth grade class to flunk Penmanship. When you got to be thirteen, most guys I knew got a fancy fountain pen for their birthday. Instead, the old man had wisely decided on a typewriter for me. Carefully, I typed each word on the Smith-Corona. To avoid any erasures or mistakes; I redid whole pages until it was perfect and pristine. I wanted to make a good impression on the FCC about the sincerity of my penance. Finally I signed it and typed the envelope too.

By the time I was done, it was after eight in the evening. I could hear the TV in the living room. The old man was watching Sid Caesar; his favorite show. He was laughing; a good sign. At least for the moment he wasn't thinking about the FCC or Leavenworth. I slipped out of the basement, up the stairs to my bedroom without notice and turned out the light. I'd decided to wait till Sunday morning to launch my plan. By now, I was drained.

Saturday night, I hardly slept. The adrenalin was relining my blood pressure. I pictured the neighbors standing outside my house as the squadron of FCC men swooped down. They'd all be wearing the official FCC uniform; black pants, long sleeved white shirts, rolled up to the elbows; pocket protectors full of pencils and those little slide rules. No nonsense and grim faced, they summarily clapped me in handcuffs and collected me to pay for my crime. Or so the nightmare went; repeated each time I nodded off, with different endings. None of them good.

Now it was Sunday morning. Time for the final act.

I came down to breakfast with the letter in my hand. The old man was eating an onion roll with smoked whitefish; his favorite. He had a copy of the *Sunday New York Times* on the table. Even though he was a blood sworn Democrat he read the *Times*, a Republican bastion from cover to cover each Sunday. Mom was cooking eggs and my kid sister was nowhere in sight.

Nervously, I proffered the letter with the pink ticket on top. The old man looked up from the *Times*. He was reading the financial section and mumbling about the Republicans. He took the letter and started reading.

I'd worked up my simple letter into a literary masterpiece. I mentioned the purchase of additional equipment a couple times in the letter to include the crystal calibrator. In addition to the letter itself, I added a diagram of the shack, descriptions of my equipment, including the Z-Match and my ARRL membership certificate.

I tried to maintain an air of calm detachment but inside I was shaking like a nervous cat as the old man looked it over. As usual, he got right to the heart of the matter. "How much is this all going to cost?"

The old man was a depression era high school dropout. What I didn't know at the time was how committed he was to seeing his kids get the education he had to forgo. He would never understand the ins and outs of amateur radio. He inherently believed that there were only four acceptable career paths for young male children; Medicine, Dentistry, Accounting or Engineering. As long as my interests fit into one of those niches, he was willing to do anything to help it along.

I mumbled something about eighty dollars. "What? How Much? Eighty?" he raised his voice raised to the fight or flight level. I am sweating through my eyeballs. "You better make sure this fixes it!" Then in one single motion, he reached into his wallet and dropped four brand new twenty dollar bills on the kitchen table.

I grabbed the money and the letter and dashed from the kitchen. Took the basement stairs two at a time and called Ralph on the phone. Once again, I unloaded on him about the letter, the crystal calibrator and the Z-Match. Through the signature wheeze of his breath, I could swear he was smiling on the other end of the phone. He was of course, the greatest Elmer of all time, so he probably knew how it was going to come out.

"I know kid. That's great.", he said. He knew? How could he know? I took the cash out of my pocket and stared at the four crisp, sequentially numbered bills. I wondered for a second if Ralph and the old man had worked it out in advance.

Ralph's raspy voice broke into my thoughts, "Make sure you mail the letter, kid. I'll meet you down at Harrison Radio Tuesday afternoon." "And go work that W0 from South Dakota on 14235." Click went the phone in my ear.

The End for Now



BVARC Rag Chew Net

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

01/23/19, K5LKJ (NCS), W5TKZ, W5TOM, K5JPP, AA5OA/5 (Fort Smith, AR), KF50XF (Needville), K2MPP, K5IZO, WW5PA, W5VOM, W5RH, K5BOD (Spiro, OK), KJ5Y (RCS)(W5FMH/club) (Angleton). (13 Check-Ins) Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 72, SN = 18, A = 3, K = 3 / Band Rpt: Fair

01/30/19, K5LKJ (NCS), K5JPP, K2MPP, K5IZO/5 (Jasper), W5TOM, WW5PA/5 (M), W5RH, WA5ANF (T), KG5WPE, AA5OA (Fort Smith, AR), KF5PHA, KG5YYQ, W5VOM. (13 Check-Ins) Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 75, SN = 15, A = 2, K = 0 / Band Rpt: Good

02/06/19, K5LKJ (NCS), W5TKZ, W5TOM, W5VOM, K5IZO, K5JPP, KG5WPE, W5RH, WA5ANF (T), KF5ZAC (T), W5HFF (12 Check-Ins) Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 70, SN = 0, A = 5, K = 3 / Band Rpt: Fair - Good

02/13/19, K5LKJ (NCS), K5JPP, K2MPP, W5TKZ, K5IZO, W5TOM, WA5CYI, K5LJ, W1BG, KG5WPE, KJ5Y (RCS)(W5FMH/club) (Angleton). 11 Check-Ins) Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 70, SN = 0, A = 6, K = 2 / Band Rpt: Fair

02/20/19, K5LKJ (NCS), K5JPP, K2MPP, K5IZO, W5VOM, WW5PA, K5LJ, W5TKZ, KD5CDM, W5RH, W5TOM, KG5WPE, WA5ANF (T), AA5OA (Fort Smith, AR), K5BOD/5 (Fort Smith, AR), K2MPP, KF5PHA. (16 Check-Ins) Solar Cycle 24: SFI = 75, SN = 15, A = 2, K = 0 / Band Rpt: Good

(M) = mobile (P) = Portable (R) = Relay (RCS) = remote controlled station (T) = telephone check-in Net conditions have been fair to good this month. Improve your knowledge.

Come join in the conversation each Wednesday evening.

Regards. John K5LKJ



British P.O. High-Knob Key

MINUTES
Board of Directors Meeting
Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club

February 9, 2019 9:00 AM
Bayland Park Community Center
6400 Bissonnet, Houston, Texas

Board Members Present:

Mike Hardwick N5VCX (President)
Jon Noxon KF5TFJ (Rec. Secretary)
Donovan Balli KG5BDZ (Treasurer)

Mark Janzer K5MGJ (Vice President)
Jeff Greer W5JEF (Cor. Secretary)
Scott Medbury KD5FBA (2yr @ Lg Dir)

Visitors

Larry Riendeau K5LER
Ron Litt K5HM
Randy Polard AK5G

Recorded by Jon Noxon, KF5TFJ Recording Secretary

- 1) Call to Order: The President called the meeting to order at 9:16 AM.
 - 2) Establishment of Quorum: A business quorum was established.
 - 3) Approval of Agenda: A motion made and seconded to approve the agenda.
 - 4) Club President's Opening Statement: The President thanked those present for attending the meeting.
 - 5) Emergency Business: Dave Eisner has resigned as club Treasurer. Donovan Balli has agreed to assume the Treasurer position until such time as a replacement is made. Motion made and carried to accept Dave's resignation and Donovan's appointment Anita Fawcett WA5JMC now SK; family requested contributions to Alzheimer's Association in lieu of flowers (on individual basis).
 - 6) Approval of Minutes from Previous BOD Meeting: The Board approved the minutes for the November 2018 BoD meeting.
 - 7) Approval of Treasurer's Report: The Board approved the Treasurer's Report.
 - 8) Old Business:
 - General Membership Meetings scheduled as follows, with topics not listed to be determined:
 - March 14, 2019 (Balloon Launch Presentation plus obligatory Ham Fest stuff)
 - April 11, 2019 (Arduino 101- Jon Noxon)
 - May 9, 2019 FD (General Info on FD and Museum Ships)
 - June 13, 2019 (ARRL Field Day Training, operation of K3's and software) NARS seems to have declined to participate; KARS, ECHO, TDXS and BVARQ are the participating groups.
 - July 11, 2019 (open)
 - Status of Museum Ships donations; pending Ham Fest proceeds. "Cool Dude" is preparing a package detailing costs for A/C installation.
 - Topics for club meetings discussed. (suggestions included Slow-Scan TV, Satellite operations)
 - Privatization of the club roster discussed; decision placed in abeyance. Subject to be presented briefly to membership at general meeting and via Beacon to gauge member's desires.
 - Status of Museum Ships donations; pending Ham Fest proceeds.
 - Medbury working on additional activities including a picnic and Ham Nights at Skeeters games.
 - 9) New Business:
 - Museum Ships set for June 1 & 2, 2019
 - ECHO kicked out of Red Cross; offer made to merge with BVARC.
 - CW Net practice net proposed; VP to promote in Beacon.
 10. Cost Saving Measures: Still looking into this on an on-going item. Meeting place, Awards Banquet and Storage Locker are major expenses.
 11. Next BOD meeting date: February 9, 2019
- Future BoD dates: (all 2019) Mar 9, Apr 6, May 4, Jun 8, July 6, Aug 3, Sep 7, Oct 5, Nov 9, Dec 7 is Possible conflict with Pearl Harbor Event
12. Comments: Vetting of Award recipients proposed.
 13. Adjournment 10:12



One, two, three...

Things to do in April.

- 1) Put one over on someone on Monday, April 1—**April Fool's Day**.
- 2) Participate in **Arduino 101** on Thursday, April 11, and gain skills in working with your very own Arduino Nano.
- 3) Make sure you've paid your fair share by **TAX DAY**, Monday, April 15.

We can't help with numbers 1 or 3, but we're here for the second one. For full participation, you will need to bring your laptop and a mini-usb data cable for the Arduino Nano (limited Arduino Nano supply, email Jon Noxon KF5TFJ (jon@noxon.cc) to get on the list. If you already have an Arduino, bring it and your computer to the meeting and follow along. We will have Arduino Nanos available for \$4.00, (we lose money on every sale but making it up in volume).



BVARC has some TV personalities

Many of you know that the “Lunch Bunch” has been meeting for more than 50 years every Wednesday. We have been at Luby's in the Meyerland and Bellaire area for about 20 years. Luby's is preparing for an advertising blitz and recruited our attendees to get taped for some spots in upcoming TV ads. Here is the link to see the “tapings” (that's a dated term). NOTE: This is a compilation of several tapings. Therefore, be sure your speakers are on as our 30 second spot begins immediately. Other's follow but you can't “rewind” as these are separate but compiled together. If you miss the first spot, we are also in the second spot, but it is only 15 seconds long. Go to:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AeVM_n_M_9M&index=6&list=PLMlpTvsyvpSikXv2nBNI3hdyIP8L9S7N&t=0s

If you wish to participate, just show up between 10:30 and 11:00 on Wednesdays at Luby's Meyer Park, 9797 South Post Oak . It doesn't officially open until 11, but they let us in early so we settle in and chat, and then get at the head of the line at 11.



Anita Fawcett, WA5JMC, SK

Anita Fawcett passed away on January 30, 2019 at the age of 84. She was a BVARC member, WA5JMC, the wife of BVARC member Eugene (Pump Handle) Fawcett, WA5CYI, the mother of Ron Fawcett, KD5CDM and the mother of Carol and Ron's twin brother, Robert. She often attended various BVARC socials, Field Day and was a regular at the Wednesday Lunch Bunch.



BVARC Monday Night Public Service Net Updates

Don't forget the BVARC Monday Night Net starts at **8 pm** on 146.94 (167.9). The order of check-ins starts 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 Rick, w5rh, if you are interested. Here are recent check-ins with control-ops:

11/26 - 12 - Clint, kf5ndf	12/31 - 10 - Terry, k5pgf	1/28 - 16 - Clint, kf5ndf
12/3 - 12 - Rick, w5rh	2019	2/4 - 14 - Dave, k5ekw
12/10 - 15 - Bill, kg5fqx	1/7 - 11 - Dave, k5ekw	2/11 - 17 - Bill, kg5fqx
12/17 - 8 - Dave, k5ekw	1/14 - 19 - Bill, kg5fqx	2/18 - 14 - Dave, k5ekw
12/24 - 10 - Clint, kf5ndf	1/21 - 14 - Dave, k5ekw	2/25 - 11 - Clint, kf5ndf

BVARC QUICK STATS

Date	Members	Newsletters	Life Members
2/26/2019	198	181	73



Hamfests

(typically within 200 miles of Houston)

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

03/08/2019 | Louisiana State Convention, 59th Acadina Hamfest

Location: Rayne, LA
Type: ARRL Convention
Sponsor: Acadiana Amateur Radio Association, Inc.
Website: <http://w5ddl.org/hamfest/index.htm>

03/22/2019 | Texas State Convention (Greater Houston Hamfest)

Location: Rosenberg, TX
Type: ARRL Convention
Sponsor: Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club
Website: <http://houstonhamfest.org>

04/06/2019 | Ham EXPO Spring 2019

Location: Belton, TX
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: Temple Amateur Radio Club
Website: <http://TARC.org/hamexpo/>



Advertising in the BVARC Newsletter

Rates are as follows: \$25 per month for 1/2 page, \$125 for six months and \$250 for one year. The rates for a full page are as follows: \$50 per month, \$250 for six months and \$500 for the year.

BRAZOS VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

This newsletter, the BVARC BEACON, is a monthly publication of the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club. For a full listing of officers and information about BVARC, please go to www.bvarc.org. Detailed information will be published in the BEACON every 3 or 4 months. Similarly, the "Eating Schedule" will be published every 3 or 4 months unless there is a change.

General membership dues are \$25.00 per year, with student dues \$10.00 per year, additional family members \$5.00 per member per year.

Club meetings are normally held on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Sugar Land Masonic Lodge, 421 Eldridge Rd, Sugar Land, 77478. Check the above website for any possible changes.

BVARC amateur radio testing has resumed. It takes place on the Saturday before the 2nd Thursday of each month at 10:30 AM. Location: Bayland Park Community Center, 6400 Bissonnet, Houston, 77074. BEFORE GOING, please check the BVARC website for any changes.

A Public Service Net is held each Monday at 8 p.m. on the 146.94 (minus offset, PL 167.9 tone) repeater.

A 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, see the BVARC website: www.bvarc.org

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NOTE: Officers, advertising and eating schedule are on the website. They will only be published in the Newsletter every few months.

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**BRAZOS VALLEY
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
P.O. BOX 2997
SUGAR LAND, TX 77487-2997
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

FIRST CLASS POSTAGE

March 9 – BVARC Amateur Radio License Testing Session

March 14 – General Membership Meeting

March 23 – Greater Houston Hamfest and ARRL TEXAS STATE CONVENTION



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