



BVARC BEACON



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

MARCH 2022

VOLUME 46 ISSUE 3

March Program – Don't Look Up!

Not really but it at least it will give you an idea of what the topic may be. As most of you may have heard, Jeff Greer, W5JEF is getting ready for communications with the International Space Station later this year for his children's school. Jeff has been working with several other amateur radio operators in the area for the project including Charlie Larrabee, KG5QNO. So, to give everyone an insight to what Jeff is doing, Charlie will have a presentation on ARISS – Amateur Radio on the International Space Station. For everyone that is not familiar with ARISS, I have included some information from their web site – www.ariss.org.

About ARISS



Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) inspires students, worldwide, to pursue interests and careers in science, technology, engineering and math through amateur radio communications opportunities with the [International Space Station \(ISS\)](http://www.nasa.gov) on-orbit crew. Students learn about life on board the ISS and explore Earth from space through science and math activities. ARISS provides opportunities for the school community (students, teachers, families and community members) to become more aware of the substantial benefits of human spaceflight and the exploration and discovery that occur on spaceflight journeys. Students have the opportunity to learn about space technologies and the technologies involved with space communications through exploration of amateur radio.

Amateur Radio organizations, and space agencies in the USA, Russia, Canada, Japan and Europe sponsor this educational opportunity by providing the equipment and operational support to enable direct communication between crew on the ISS and students around the world via Amateur Radio. Hundreds of Amateur Radio operators around the world work behind the scenes to make these educational experiences possible. Amateur Radio is a popular hobby and a service in which licensed participants operate communications equipment with a deep appreciation of the radio art.

ARISS was created and is managed by an international working group, including several countries in Europe as well as Japan, Russia, Canada, and the USA. The organization is run by volunteers from the national amateur radio organizations and the international AMSAT (Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation) organizations from each country. Since ARISS is international in scope, the team coordinates locally with their respective space agency and as an international team through ARISS working group meetings, teleconferences and webinars.

So tune into the ZOOM meeting for an update on the Jeff's adventure on the ARISS adventure!

Submitted by Mike Hardwick, N5VCX

Prez Says

Time is moving fast with two months already into the new year. The problems with COVID seem to be going away but there are still problems. One of my co-workers was hospitalized with COVID last week and he is now on oxygen. He said he may be in the hospital for several more weeks for recovery so letting us no let our guard down just yet.

The Greater Houston Tail Gate is coming up fast on April 16th at Duhacsek Park. If you are interested in selling or attending, remember the cost is only \$5 to get in. Contact anyone on the board to reserve a space for the tailgate area. More information will be on the web site in March.

Thanks to Scott Bulkley, KI5NPL, for putting together a new BVARC web site. See more information on the web site elsewhere in the newsletter.

The March meeting will be a ZOOM meeting about Amateur Radio on the International Space Station and the efforts of Jeff Greer, W5JEF, to help his children's school to get into the program. More information on this is elsewhere in the newsletter.

Don't forget coming up in June is Museum Ships Weekend in Galveston and ARRL Field Day at Duhacsek Park in Sugar Land.

Besides BVARC's 3910 rag chew net each Wednesday, there is another HF net that might be of interest. Tune up to 3916 to the Tailgaters net in the evening after 8:30 pm. They have a great time on the air and you can get more HF time as well.

See everyone on the ZOOM meeting in March.

N5VCX



Pump Handle Key

Is this named after our own Pump Handle, WA5CYI? Actually though "Pump" is one of BVARC's most senior members, this key is from Circa 1902, so even Pump doesn't pre-date it. The nickname is obviously because it looks like an old timey hand pump handle. The handle is tapped to the side as the operator wishes. This predated the Telegraphy changing key, the original Vibroplex Bug, to relieve what they called "Telegrapher's Paralysis." We now know that this is Carpel Tunnel Syndrome. Manufactured by Foote Pierson & Co. New York.



February VE - FCC TESTING SESSIONS RESULTS

Bayland Community Center is open, they are currently back to 100% capacity, so no headcount limits.
For Saturday, February 5th, we had 2 candidates and conducted 3 tests.

New Licensee:

T. Chandler (Technician)

Upgrades:

KI5SLC (General)

Congratulations to all!

A GREAT, thank you to the VEs in attendance – K5GOL, K5LJ, WX5KR and K5IZO!

The next BVARC test session is **Saturday, March 5th at 10:30.**

The testing fee is still \$15. The date which this will change to \$15 test and \$35 license fee (totaling \$50), has not yet been determined, but is expected sometime early in 2022. Our current understanding is that VEs will collect \$15 at the test session and the \$35 fee will be collected directly by the FCC.

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

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

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



BVARC Rag Chew Net

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

01/26/22, K5LKJ (NCS), K5JPP, KE4DRF, N5VCM, W5LIC, AA5OA (Percy, AR)(T), K5TNL, W5VOM, K5LJ, KF5PHA, WW5PA, W5ALW, KI5HOC, KG5ICR, W5TKZ, W1BG (Katy), W5MMQ, N5EKW. (18 Check-Ins)
Solar Cycle 25: SFI = 102, SN = 53, A = 11, K = 2/Band Rpt: Good

02/02/22, K5LKJ (NCS), K5JPP, W5TKZ, KI5HOC, W5SV, K5LJ, W5ALW, KG5LJZ (Clear Lake) Houston, KG5LRS (Quinlan), KG5ICR, AA5OA (Percy, AR), W5WES (Baytown), W5RH, KI5HKN (Pinehurst), KB5QL (Ruston, LA), KF5PHA, W5VOM, AA0ST (Dickinson)(T). (19 Check-Ins)
Solar Cycle 25: SFI = 112, SN = 107, A = 8, K = 2 / Band Rpt: Good

02/09/22, W5TKZ (NCS), K5LKJ, K5JPP, W5ALW, W5SV, N5VCM, KG5ICR, KB5QL (Ruston, LA), AA5OA (Percy, AR), KI5HOC, KG5LJZ (Clear Lake) Houston, W5VOM, KD5YOU, W5WMC, W5WES. (15 Check-Ins)
Solar Cycle 25: SFI = 126, SN = 88, A = 8, K = 1 / Band Rpt: Fair

02/16/22, W5TKZ (NCS), K5JPP, WA5CYI, K5LJ, K5LKJ, W5ALW, NT5SM, N5VCM, KI5HOC, KG5ICR, KF5PHA, AA5OA (Percy, AR), AB4BU (Marianna, FL), KE4DRF, KE5EBS (Ruston, LA), W5LIC, ND5RR (EI Paso). (17 Check-Ins)
Solar Cycle 25: SFI = 103, SN = 52, A = 9, K = 3/Band Rpt: Fair

(M) = mobile (P) = Portable (R) = Relay (RCS) = remote controlled station (T) = telephone check-in

Net conditions have been fair to good this month. Fire up the rig and learn what others are doing and share your experiences. Come join in the conversation each Wednesday evening. Regards. John K5LKJ

BVARC Web Site – A New Look!

Home About BVARC Local Nets Resources Ham License Testing Join/Renew/Change BVARC BLOG

Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club

Houston's Largest Ham Radio Club

License Testing Join BVARC Club Meetings Club Events

facebook YouTube

Greater Houston Tailgate - April 16, 2022 - Duhacsek Park 7am - 3pm

49 Days 20 Hours 25 Minutes 27 Seconds

Welcome to BVARC!

The Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club (BVARC) is the largest, most active ham radio club in the Houston Area. It was organized in 1978, primarily as an emergency communications group available to assist the communities of Stafford and Missouri City when required. Since that time BVARC has grown and expanded its activities to bring together many diverse interests all over Texas.

Today, BVARC is truly a general interest club with an impressive record of public service. This commitment to service has been recognized by the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) with the coveted status of Special Service Club. We are proud of our members who represent the finest in Amateur Radio. Membership is not limited to licensed operators, but is open to anyone with an interest in Amateur Radio.

What is Amateur Radio?

Amateur radio, often called Ham Radio, is both a hobby and a service in which participants, called "hams", use various types of radio communication equipment to communicate with other radio amateurs for public service, recreation, and self-training.

Amateur radio operators enjoy personal (and often worldwide) wireless communications with each other and are able to support their communities with emergency and disaster communication if necessary.

How Do I Become a Ham?

Before you can get on the air, you need to be licensed and know the rules to operate legally. US licenses are good for 10 years before renewal. There are three license classes: Technician, General and Extra.

BVARC holds VE exam sessions for anyone who wants to get their technician license or upgrade an existing license.

[Click here for More Info](#)

If you have not been on the BVARC web site recently, you are in for a big surprise. Thanks to efforts of Scott Bulkley, K15NPL, and his hard work, BVARC has a new web site layout. Scott, with the help of Eddie Runner, N5UK, integrated the new look into the BVARC information that Eddie has been coordinating for years. The integration went well and BVARC is now the proud user of the web site. If you have any questions or comment the new look, drop an e-mail to the board.

Thanks again to Scott for your hard work on the new site.

Mike Hardwick, N5VCX
BVARC President



Dan Gannon, WA5ANF, SK

Tom Morton, W5TOM, SK

Where in the World is . . .
Macau (XX9)
CQ Zone 24

Macau, also spelled Macao is a small peninsula in mainland China, across the Pearl River Delta from Hong Kong.

A Portuguese overseas territory until 1999, it reflects a mix of Portuguese and Chinese influences. Its giant casinos and extravagant malls have earned it the nickname, the "Las Vegas of Asia." In 1999, it became the Macao Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China. It has an estimated population of about 650,000 crowded into a 12 square mile area.



The Portuguese arrived in 1513 and established trading rights with the Chinese. As commerce grew, they began to exert more influence over the local inhabitants. By 1564, Portugal commanded western trade with India, Japan, and China.



In 1576, Pope Gregory XIII established the Roman Catholic Diocese of Macau. The Portuguese in Macau were eventually permitted to form a Senate to handle various issues concerning their social and economic affairs under strict supervision of the Chinese authority, but there was no transfer of sovereignty.

By the 1840's, they established their own self administration. Macau prospered as a port but it was the target of repeated failed attempts by the Dutch to conquer it in the 17th century. On June 24, 1622, the Dutch attacked Macau with the hope of turning it into a Dutch possession. The Portuguese repulsed their attack and the Dutch never tried to conquer Macau again.

During WW II, Portugal's neutrality was mostly respected by the Japanese except for some minor incidents. After the establishment of the People's Republic of China in 1949, the Beijing government declared the Sino-Portuguese Treaty invalid as an "unequal treaty" imposed by foreigners on China.



Sovereignty over Macau was transferred to China in December 1999. The treaty stipulates that Macau operate with a high degree of autonomy until at least 2049, fifty years after the transfer. Macau is among the world's richest regions, and as of 2015 its GDP per capita by purchasing power parity is higher than that of any country in the world, according to the World Bank. It became the world's largest gambling center in 2006, with the economy heavily dependent on gambling and tourism.

QRZ.com reports 114 licensed radio amateurs in Macau.

Visiting hams to Macau report, it is difficult to find a suitable spot for operation in Macau surrounded by mountains, except in southern direction. On top of that there can also be heavy local QRN due to the high degree of development.

Macau's special status with the Peoples' Republic of China ends in 2049. After that, no more XX9 prefix.

Reporting from the Dark Side,
Ron, K5HM



MINUTES
Board of Directors Meeting
Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club
February 4, 2022 9:00 AM; Via Videoconference

Members Present:

Mike Hardwick N5VCX (President)
David Ely N5EKW (Treasurer)
Jeff Greer W5JEF (Cor. Secretary)

Scott Medbury KD5FBA (2 yr at
large director)

John Chauvin
K5IZO (Parliamentarian)
Chris Luppens KG5BBF

Recorded by Mark McGrath N5VCM Recording Secretary

1. Call to Order: The President called the meeting to order at 9:06 AM.
2. Establishment of a Quorum: A business quorum of Board Members was established.
3. Club President's Opening Statement: The President thanked those in attendance for taking the time to join the meeting.
4. Approval of Agenda: Agenda approved:
5. Emergency business: None.
6. Approval of Minutes: Minutes deferred until next meeting.
7. Approval of Treasurer's Report: Approved as presented.
8. Corresponding Secretary: Report approved as presented.
9. Old Business:
 - Upcoming general membership meetings - February – George Observatory. March TBD
 - Update on Greater Houston Tailgate 2022
 - Update on possible new general membership meeting site.
10. New Business:
 - None
11. Next BoD Meeting Date: March 5, 2022.
12. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned 9:36 AM.



The Radio Hotel – Advances in Antenna Tech

by Rick Hiller – W5RH

If you have been a ham for a long time then you have seen things change. Continual technological advances and how they have influenced our Ham Radio hobby. If you are new to the Ham Radio world, you would be remiss if you did not know from where the current offerings of technology, information and operational standards came from. I'll limit my scope to antenna use within Ham Radio world. As we move forward through the hobby both the technology changes as does the implementation or how that technology is utilized. I haven't really seen any new discoveries, but I have seen refinement of how that technology is used and implemented. So what has changed within the antenna world?

Yagis have taken on a different tack with Yagi element length and spacing adjustments to establish 50 ohm feeds. This eliminates the use of those finicky Gamma or even Hairpin matches. If you look at the gain and F/B curves for Yagi's you'll find that 50 ohm feed is readily obtainable, but at a slight loss of maximum gain and a reduction of F/B ratio. However, anecdotal evidence from designers and users point to the betterment of performance in contesting, etc. using direct feed. (Ref: [Array of Light book – N6BT, Tom Schiller](#)) (See: [The Radio Hotel -- Nov. 2017 Beacon “Recent Trends in Yagi-Uda Design”](#))

Also in the Yagi world, low noise antennas have taken a stint in the spotlight. Low noise is defined as antennas designed to reduce the signals coming in off the sides, but more importantly, off the back of the array. Noise in these cases is defined as any signal that is undesirable, not just the traditional "noise" in the sense of QRM, but also EMI or atmospherics etc.. What helps here is the use of NEC modeling and iterative scripts built to change one control attribute at a time and play it against all other, but static, attributes, then increment and repeat. This is done over and over until all control attributes are varied and played against all other attributes. (Ref: [The Radio Hotel – Aug. 2016 Beacon “50 Ohm direct Feed Yagi's”](#))

Receive Only antennas have also taken an expansion of strange utilizations. A few years back Flags and Pennants were in vogue, allowing rotatable/directive receive systems. Hams then took the “snake” on-ground antenna from years past and started to put Flags on the Ground (FOG) and Loops on the Ground (LOG). Putting some of these antennas, even reduced size was a shoe-horn effort into your back yard. Shared Loop arrays fit that bill along with also being directive through phasing. However, all of this new implementation did not put a damper on the legacy Beverage Wave Antenna. In fact, that design has taken a few steps forward with the use of parallel and phased Wave Antenna systems. If you have the room, the Beverage remains the Cadillac of the receive assortment. (Ref: [The Radio Hotel – July 2020 Beacon “A Cursory Look at Receive Only Antennas”](#)) And, note that, even the Beverage has been lowered to ground level as a Beverage On Ground -- BOG.

As Hams took a deeper dive into the theory of antennas and their working characteristics in order to improve their performance characteristics, they got deeper in the physics of the sky hook. (See: [The Radio Hotel Aug 2018 Beacon “The Impedance of Space”](#).) Also, although currently in the commercial realm, there is some antenna development we might want to pay attention too. (See: [The Radio Hotel – April 2017 Beacon “AA0ST and Antennas Thru the Looking Glass”](#).)

All this reminds me of the Virginia Slims ad from years back, “We’ve come a long way Baby”
Enjoy your hobby....73

The Feed Point

Getting to Know Your Fellow Members of BVARC

QST, QST this is K5PGF, K5- Pretty Good Fellow. Many of you know me from the Monday night net control. Others from the fact that I came to Houston from Alabama in May of 1986 and never left. Hi Hi. The editors of the BVARC Newsletter asked me to write about myself here for you, so here's my story.

My father is W4DUF in Phenix City, Alabama. As an RF Engineer for the Fla. Highway Patrol, Southern Railroad, and the Airlines, I was around radios, soldering irons, and meters at a young age. I followed my dad around a lot.

I got my General license at age 13 in Columbus Ga in 1973. WB4PGF. Ironically, you can see a picture of me then on my QRZ page. It was recently found in a Columbus newspaper archive.

I went to the University of Alabama (BS. Chemistry/Computer Science) and was the President of the UA Amateur Radio Club 78-82. You can google PATY HALL and see a google earth picture of the dorm rooftop where I was the 1st to put antennas on the roof with my radio buddies.

Being a public service minded young man, I volunteered at the Tuscaloosa County Emergency Operation office as a tornado spotter controller, way before Doppler Radar. We put push pins on a map of the county where HAMS were on top of hills spotting and relaying.

Fast forward to Houston. I moved to H-town in May of '86 for a 25-year career with HP as a Chemist/Computer guy. Today I work for IBM. WN5A was my first radio contact on the .94 repeater. Thanks, Jack, for being friendly. I bought a house in Sharpstown as a 25yr old and there was a half tower antenna behind me. Turns out it was W5RH.

I'm blessed with 4 daughters, all with graduate degrees from 5 universities. My wife asks why I can talk to strangers on the radio, and don't talk to her, Hi Hi. I think we all have this problem. Now I try not to do radio more than 2 hours per week so that it doesn't consume me (until I retire soon).

I've been blessed by God these 62 years with many good friends and experiences. The most important aspect was being mission commander for 10 years of Central America missions for Water Well drilling, Gospel teaching, Medical, and community construction for Sugar Creek Baptist Church. It makes you realize just how good we have it here in the US. Don't take our rights and privileges for granted.

These days I've been slowly perfecting my Ham station for retirement. Santa Claus 2022 was good to me, and I now have a FTDX10 and Expert Amp for my HF station with 3 duplicate Kenwood TMV71 mobile and base radios. Although I'm intermittent with EMROG in Ft Bend County, I've been in the organization since I arrived in Houston. Retirement will change things for more activity, I'm sure.

I have some pictures of my Riverstone Sugar land stealth antenna farm on my QRZ page as well. I handpicked my new home lot so that I could put a Folded Dipole and Sky loop in the creek back behind my house where no one is affected. It is all working great! You're welcome to come by to see the shack/man cave.

In my former house in Williams Grant, I had another stealth antenna on a 20' pole that folded up and down behind my garage with one finger. I have pictures of that too if anyone is interested.

Well, that's enough of my story for now. I hope it was encouraging. We all need Elmers in this radio hobby.

My parting advice is to not let Ham Radio consume your life so you can experience life fully with people, family, and experiencing all of God's creations before we go to the blue antenna farm in the sky. For sure, I'll see many of you there one day.

73's and God Bless all. Terry, K5PGF

Cutting Thru the Static

A Column for Newbies and Everyone Else

“There was nothing I could do to dim the supernovae exploding inside my brain, an endless chain of intra-cranial firecrackers”

That quote from John Green might be a slight overstatement for new hams reeling under the myriad of paths available. But there is a lot to choose from. I laid out a brief list of options for amateur radio operators in last month’s column. It came in answer to the question frequently uttered by non-hams wondering what’s so great about “the world’s greatest hobby,” often asking, “You have a cell phone, why do you need a radio?”

That column recognized that we hams need to widen the public’s understanding of what and who we are. Yes, we are a large international group of enthusiasts who enjoy wonderful gizmos, Hi Hi, but we also recognize that we are given access to precious radio frequencies because of our pledge to operate in public service. And as a friend made clear to me recently, that may be a key to expanding the hobby’s appeal.

Jeff, AA0ST, no stranger to public service, points to younger generations that are often driven by a need to serve and help others. Some express that through political activism, but I think most would rather put their energies into service. And amateur radio provides just such an opportunity, something the hobby should spend a lot more effort promoting. QSL to that!

Notes for newbies. The old adage says, “Don’t believe everything you read,” and the corollary to that is don’t believe everything you watch on YouTube. I was reminded of that recently after blindly following SDR software setup instructions offered up by a very authoritative-sounding presenter. But I soon discovered there were a lot of resulting problems.



Fortunately, I had listened to my internal voice that warned me to take pictures of the previous settings so I could return those settings to their former state. I always urge newbies to be adventuresome, but it’s always a good idea to take a screen shot or a picture of software forms that work and to keep a log of changes you make as you configure or reconfigure your gear. I speak from experience. It will save you a lot of grief.

Keep in mind successful YouTube presenters may be motivated more by money than accuracy. I have learned a lot from YouTube presenters, but you can also get a bum steer there.

The Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club is a great organization with a good website where you’ll find a club roster, a list of activities and some pictures and videos from past events. And there’s also a great contest calendar for those with a competitive urge.

By the way, one of my favorite links at the Oak Forest club’s site is a list of ham radio nets of all kinds. Looking for a ham conversation? Here’s a link: http://ofarc.org/documents/Hou_nets_22_0123.pdf

And if you haven’t joined the ARRL, get with it. If you don’t agree with something the league is doing, make your opinion known. But please don’t pretend ARRL isn’t the best friend hams have in Washington’s bureaucratic maze of regulatory sinkholes.

2022 Officers:

President (2022-2023)
Michael Hardwick, N5VCX
n5vcx@att.net

Vice President (2021-2022)
Jimmy Vance, NA5D

Recording Secretary (2022-20213)
Mark McGrath -- N5VCM
mark@mcgrath-co.com

Corresponding Secretary (2021-2022)
Jeff Greer, W5JEF
greerjw@hotmail.com

Treasurer (2021-2022)
David Ely, N5EKW
Davidely@prodigy.net

2 Year At-Large Board Member A: (2022-2023)
Anthony Morones, W5LIC

2 Year At-Large Board Member B: (2021-2022)
Scott Medbury KD5FBA
smedbury@windstream.net

1 Year At Large (2022)
Sheree Horton, WM5N
sher5456@gmail.com

Regularly Scheduled Club Happenings:

General Meeting

Second Thursday each month. 7:30 PM
Imperial Park Sugarland Recreation Center at
234 Matlage Way, Sugar Land TX, 77478
Due to COVID-19, as this goes to press, the meeting will be held
online at 7:00PM. Check www.BVARC.org for more current info.

Board of Directors Meeting

The Saturday before the 2nd Thursday, 9:00 AM
Bayland Park Community Center
Bayland Park, 6400 Bissonnet, Houston.
Due to COVID-19, as this goes to press, the meeting will be held
online. Check www.BVARC.org for more current info.

Volunteer Examiner Program

The monthly ham testing session takes place on the same day and
location as the BOD Meeting, but at 10:30 AM. As with the BOD
meeting above, this is usually held at Bayland Park Community
Center, however, please check the BVARC website,
www.BVARC.org, for any last minute changes or updates.

Rag Chew Net

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

Public Service Net

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

10M Net

This is usually held every Tuesday, at 8PM, on 28.488

Slow Speed CW Net, Thursdays, 8PM, 7.090 KHz +/- 5 KHz.

Simplex Net: 4th Thursday, 7PM, 146.540 MHz. Simplex (No
tones). Alternate freq. is 147.540. Preceded at 6:15 by an
informational educational Zoom meeting. Zoom link and updated
info at www.simplexhouston.com

SPECIAL NETS during these COVID-19 times: 146/94 MHz
A breakfast net Saturday mornings
"Stir Crazy" net is held each weekday at noon.
Check www.BVARC.org for current info.



Advertising in the BVARC Newsletter

Rates are as follows: \$25 per monthly for ½ 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.



BVARC EATING SCHEDULE

**Most of these events have resumed while complying to
the Social Distancing and Mask requirements. Check
with the respective entity to see the actual status.**

SATURDAY MORNING BREAKFAST

IHOP, 7:00a.m., SW Freeway inbound service road,
near Kirkwood.

OTHER HAM GROUPS:

WEDNESDAY LUNCH BUNCH

This group has resumed meeting weekly at Luby's
Cafeteria, W. Airport & FM-1092 (Murphy Rd). 11AM.

WEDNESDAYS – AMSAT & QRP GROUP

This too is not available at press time. If anyone has
information on this, please let the Editor know.



Hamfests

(typically within 200 miles of Houston)

03/26/2022

Belton Hamfest

Location: Bell County Expo Center
301 Loop 121, Belton, TX

Sponsor: Temple Area Radio Club

Website: <https://www.tarc.org/hamexpo>

04/16/2022

Greater Houston Tailgate or the GHT.

Location: Duhacsek Park

Sponsor: Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club

Website: www.bvarc.org

06/17/2022 - 06/18/2022

Radio Fiesta

Location: Schertz, TX

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: San Antonio Radio Club

Website: <https://w5sc.org/>

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 temporarily virtual via ZOOM on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. If you have signed up for the reflector, you will receive notice and the attendance password, etc. It will also be on the website (above) a few days beforehand.

BVARC amateur radio testing has resumed. It takes place typically 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, because of COVID and scheduling conflicts, please check the BVARC website for any changes. Masks and social distancing are required.

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

During COVID-19 a "Stir Crazy Net" is also held weekdays at 12 Noon on the same frequency as above.

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

Other contacts include:

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

Newsletter Editor, John Chauvin, K5IZO, k5izo@yahoo.com

Newsletter Printing, Assembly and Mailing: Daphne Rawlinson, K5VQY, daphne_rawlinson@hotmail.com.

Jeff Greer, W5JEF, greerjw@hotmail.com, Mark Brantana, N5PRD, N5PRD@yahoo.com

VOLUME 46, ISSUE 3

March 2022

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

FIRST CLASS POSTAGE

March 10, 2022 – General Membership Meeting



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