



BVARC BEACON

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



AUGUST 2022

VOLUME 46 ISSUE 8

General Membership Meeting notice

7:30 PM, Thursday, August 11, 2022.

Community Volunteer Fire Department conference room;
16,005 Bellaire BLVD

The annual BVARC Ice Cream Social. Daphne and Scott have volunteered to coordinate it once again.



Prez Says

The month of July is almost over, and I am ready for it. With 100-degree temperatures over the last few days, it has been a hard time working outside and staying cool. So, a word of caution to everyone, please stay hydrated, take lots of breaks when working outside do you best to stay in the shade.

The July meeting went very well with a detailed discussion on the Greater Houston HamFest. There will be more on this in next month's newsletter after the first planning committee meeting so stay tune.

The contacts are still coming in for Field Day. It looks like it could make BVARC have the highest score ever. So, check the newsletter and the web site next month for the final score. Again, I want to thank to all the people that helped putting a great Field Day together.

When Ross Lawler, W5HFF passed away a few months ago, the club lost a great friend and member. Ross always would help anyone that had questions or needed information. Ross was the person that helped me study and pass my Extra exam and I will always be grateful. With the loss of friend and club member, the club also lost its trustee for the club call – KK5W (there will be article soon about the call and how the club obtained it). I would like to now announce the new trustee of KK5W – Kori Rahman, WX5KR. In the future, any requests to use the club call will go through Kori for approval. I want to thank Kori for taking on this important club position.

Coming up on August 11th, is the annual BVARC Ice Cream Social. It will be held at the Community Volunteer Fire Department conference room; 16,005 Bellaire BLVD. Daphne and Scott are working on great plan for Ice Cream so put this down on your calendar.

Finally, I am looking for a few good people to help with the production of the newsletter. If you have 5 to 6 hours a month to spare and you would like to help produce the newsletter, give me a call.

Hope to see everyone at the Ice Cream Social. It will be a face-to-face meeting since it is difficult to serve ice cream through the camera!73, N5VCX



MINUTES
Board of Directors Meeting
Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club
July 9, 2022 10:00 AM
Via Videoconference and in-person

Members Present:

Mike Hardwick N5VCX
(President)

Jimmy Vance NA5D (Vice
President)

David Ely N5EKW (Treasurer)

Jeff Greer W5JEF (Cor. Secretary,
Rec. Secretary pro tem)

Scott Medbury KD5FBA (2 yr at
large director)

Anthony Morones (2 yr at large
director)

Sheree Horton (1 yr at large
director)

1. Call to Order: The President called the meeting to order at 10:00 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: Jeff Greer will serve as Recording Secretary pro tem until November elections.
6. Approval of Minutes: June minutes were not immediately available and will be approved in the next Board meeting.
7. Approval of Treasurer's Report: Approved as presented.
8. Corresponding Secretary: Report approved as presented.
9. Old Business:
 - July membership meeting: James Webb telescope and other potential programs fell through. July meeting to be in person and on Zoom.
 - August membership meeting: ice cream social
10. New Business:
 - Next Board meeting likely at Bayland Community Center
 - BVARC on Discord (approved)
11. Next BoD Meeting Date: August 6.
12. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned 10:38 AM.



Youth On The Air Camp 2022

“CQ YOTA CQ YOTA CQ YOTA... this is W8Y, Youth On The Air calling from Cincinnati, Ohio...”

Those words are still stuck in my brain! We were making contacts early in the morning up until 11:30 PM at night every day during Youth On The Air summer camp 2022. I was honored to be accepted and attend Youth On The Air as a camper this summer, and I had an absolute blast.

Youth On The Air is an organization promoting the amateur radio hobby to youth (you can find them online at youthontheair.org). They organize a summer camp every year and this was the second one ever held in Region 2 (North/South Americas). Camp this year was held at the Voice of America Museum of Broadcasting in Cincinnati, Ohio and was spearheaded by Neil Rapp, WB9VPG. I flew up for camp the week of June 12-17, and joined the 20 other youth ham radio operators between the age of 15-25 for an epic week of adventures in radio.

I arrived on Sunday and took the shuttle to the museum, where all the campers got to tour around before camp started. There was so much cool history there, I can't even begin to describe it! And there were antennas all over the place in the back field behind the museum as well. Then after dinner, we heard from our keynote speaker, Dr. Nathaniel Frissell, W2NAF, founder of HamSCI and a professor at the University of Scranton. I loved hearing him speak on all his projects he had worked on and the adventures he had been on, particularly making CW contacts from Antarctica!

I could go on about each day in detail but that would take ages, so some of the highlights included two balloon launches, FM contesting at the Kings Island amusement park (I managed 7 contacts in 5 minutes), an awesome foxhunt (led by the very experienced Bob Frey, WA6EZV), sessions on digital modes (FT8, DSTAR, etc), satellite operations (I made my first satellite contact, plus we heard the ISS!), and my personal favorite, kit building and antenna building. I built a tape measure yagi for direction finding, a foxhunt offset attenuator (we used these two items for the foxhunt), and a Black Hole EFHW antenna (Joe Fitter, K9UR, and Matt Bonadies, K9EI from Black Hole Antennas came out to teach us). I learned to solder for the first time and I just found putting these projects together very satisfying; I'll definitely be looking into more kit builds in the future. We also operated a ton of HF under the event call W8Y; I was excited to hear some voices from home, including Kori, WX5KR, Anthony, W5LIC, and a faint Prez Mike, N5VCX (a few other club members got a contact with a YOTA camper as well)! I also got to see Mr. Temporarily Offline in action as he and his daughter Becca, KD9POK attended (I'd already subbed to both of their YouTube channels).

Overall, it was an amazing experience, and I'm tentatively hoping to return next year as a camper and possible youth leader. In addition to increasing and broadening my radio experience and knowledge, I have made many good friends with other ham youths and adults and enjoy having QSOs with them online and on air. If you know any hams in the YOTA target age, I would totally recommend this experience to them next year! YOTA is also planning on creating a camp/weekend for younger hams to attend with parents, so keep on the lookout for that if you know anyone younger who would enjoy a radio-oriented event. Youth On The Air is a great organization and I hope to partake in their future events.

73, Charlotte Chiang, KI5TRQ

JUNE and JULY VE - FCC TESTING SESSIONS RESULTS

These last two months saw our successful transition to in-person computer based testing. Other than for fee payment, there is no paper shuffling. Our session uploads to ARRL-VEC are also processed faster. For each of these Saturday sessions, the FCC-ULS was updated on the following Monday.

For Saturday, June 11th, we had 12 candidates and conducted 15 tests.

New Licensees:

Dinse, J. A. (Technician)
Dinse, J. R. (Technician)
Koser, D (Technician)
Kuruvila, R (Technician)
Obenza, A (Technician)
Schwanecke, L (Technician)
Sears, K (Technician)
Smith, M (Technician)

Upgrades:

N5KRU (General)
KI5SVV (General)
KI5LYP (General)

VEs in attendance – K5GOL, K5LJ, KF5BMZ, and N5DTT

For Saturday, July 9th, we had 6 candidates and conducted 9 tests.

New Licensees:

Golden, J (Technician)
Moore, P (Technician)

Upgrades:

KI5WAG (General)
W1GLR (General)
KC9JLE (Extra)
KG5ICR (Extra)

VEs in attendance – K5GOL, K5LJ, KG4NDS, KF5BMZ, and AK5G

Congratulations to all!

The next BVARC test session is **Saturday, August 6th at 10:30.**

For new licensees the testing fee, paid at the session is \$15. An additional \$35 license fee (totaling \$50), will be collected by the FCC separately. License upgrades **do not** pay the added \$35 fee, just the \$15 session fee.

YOUTH LICENSING INCENTIVE PROGRAM

The ARRL has created a youth program (18 and under) to defray the licensing costs to a total of **\$5** (deducting the \$35 increase and \$10 off the \$15 VE session fee). See: <http://www.arrl.org/youth-licensing-grant-program>

Also, BVARC is implementing it's own program for **youth** licensing.

We'll provide a **new VHF/UHF transceiver (Baofeng, limited supply)** at the VE session, to youth that successfully pass their Technician test. This is the result of a very generous grant from a BVARC member

Bottom line, a young person with \$5, can walk into a test session and walk out with a new radio and a pending license.

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 <https://bvarc.org/home/ham-radio-license-testing-houston/>

Pre-register to attend a test session at: <https://hamstudy.org/sessions/arrrl/77008/inperson>

For questions, Email Mark Janzer, K5MGJ at (k5mgj@yahoo.com).

Cutting Thru the Static

A Column for Newbies and Everyone Else

The idea of Earth orbiting satellites has conveyed a sense of awe to citizens of the world since the first beeping signals from the Soviet Union's Sputnik I were rebroadcast by radio stations during the fall of 1957. It began to bring to life the fictional stories of Buck Rogers and sparked several generations of young scientists and engineers to join what became known as "the Space Race."

Few of those engaged in ham radio could imagine that artificial satellite technology would be opened to hobbyists, who were always looking for new ways to communicate with each other. At the time, space was entirely in the realm of governments, mostly due to the cost and difficulty of launching anything into earth orbit, much less satellites suited for call signs and signal reports.

But it all came about a lot sooner than anyone imagined, with hams beginning to push the idea merely months after being inspired by Sputnik I. The amateur satellite organization AMSAT came into being more than 40 years ago after the first satellites open to hams began operating in the early 1960's. According to AMSAT, there are currently more than 20 operational satellites open to hams. To read more about AMSAT, visit AMSAT.org

Communicating via satellite is, in concept, not much different than connecting with another ham via a local repeater. But in practice, making QSOs via satellite isn't nearly as simple as that. That's because of the Doppler Effect that results from a ham satellite's tumbling path through space. The Doppler Effect means that, just like Einstein's famous story about the shifting pitch of a distant passing train, signals from satellites shift frequencies in the same way, meaning the operator has to learn to adjust for that shift. It's also complicated by the fact that you'll usually be working on two bands simultaneously.

Indeed, that's a big challenge, working up and down links are on different frequencies, different bands, usually vhf and uhf. That means you'll probably need a full duplex, cross band transceiver, or in lieu of that, two different radios.

BVARC's All Things Digital guru Walter Holmes says it might play out this way: an operator is holding a full duplex, dual band HT in one hand and a uhf/vhf Yagi antenna in the other, listening on VHF and transmitting on UHF. He checks a phone app for timing and targeting, aims his antenna in the prescribed direction and listens for ham chatter as the target bird rises from the horizon. At the same time, he's adjusting the angle and the twist of the antenna to compensate for the Doppler Effect, while adjusting his/her frequency for the same reason. It all happens very quickly, so WOW! That's some process. Walter says it takes practice, but the payoff is awesome thanks to the amazing DX that can be worked that way. You can start by just listening to FM satellites, frequencies available at AMSAT.org

There is a great deal of information and training material available at AMSAT.org. There are also tutorial videos on YouTube. And you can get help from the local AMSAT group at AMSATnet.com. All are invited to listen in and participate, Tuesday Evenings, 8PM Central Time, heard locally in Houston on the 145.19 Repeater. And for more help, check in with Walter Holmes on his website at K5WH.net or on his ZOOM channel. Happy satellite hunting.

73, JP, K5JPP

The Feed Point

Getting to Know Fellow Members of BVARC

LEARNING ABOUT RADIOS IN 1954 AT A BOARDING SCHOOL THE MATRON MADE ME DO IT!

Nizar Mullani, K0NM

Imagine a young Indian boy born and raised in Tanganyika, Africa, sent to a small town in England in Sussex called Southampton, to study at a boarding school. It was 1954, seven years after WW II ended. Britain was still recovering from the ravages of relentless bombing by the Germans in London during the Second World War.

If you have never experienced a boarding school, imagine about 100 boys aged between 10 to 17 years, living in one building. The headmaster was the ultimate person in charge of these kids. He used to carry a cane around to make sure the kids knew the consequences of misbehaving. Most children were terrified of the cane, so they behaved. But, there were a few who lived by the saying, "Rules are made to be broken. But, if you get caught, take the punishment like a man". Most kids in this group would drop their pants to show off the welts on your butts.

Seven o'clock was the bed time for kids of my age. Our matron was in charge of us at night time. She was a tough short lady who did not tolerate rule breakers. She would make sure we brushed our teeth and changed into our pajamas, ready for bed.

When it was time to go to bed, the matron would come around announcing "lights out" and ringing a big bell. Lights out also meant that no talking, no singing and no getting out of bed. So, what is a 12 year old boy with a lot of energy supposed to do until he falls asleep?

The answer was a Crystal Set radio. One of the boys in our room had been given a crystal set, enabling him listen to music by rotating a 'cat whisker' until he connected with the crystal. He let us take turns listening to the music being played on a nearby radio station. This was Magic! No batteries and no power cord.

We were in seventh heaven until the matron caught us one night and confiscated the radio. So, we got to work experimenting, hoping to create a new crystal set that was small and could be hidden under the pillow. We took the crystal set apart and started experimenting by taking out the big things like the capacitor, coil and the box. We ended up using smaller components and replaced the "cat's whisker" with a diode across the inputs and a thin wire going to the bed spring for an antenna. The whole thing could be hidden below our pillow!

We used this modified crystal set for a long time without the matron ever finding out about it. Late at night, the ships off the English coast would broadcast great music we could listen to. We did not have the selectivity and often would have to listen to BBC chatter while also listening to music from the ships.

When I came back to Tanganyika in 1958, I was hooked on radio as a hobby and would listen to the East African Hams during their net on Sundays. They were broadcasting using AM and I could hear them on the 40-meter band short wave radio. How ham radio prepared me to learn about digital logic, electronics and medical equipment products is a miracle story for this little kid from Africa. I'll tell you about it in next month's edition of the BVARC Beacon.

The Radio Hotel – 468

by Rick Hiller – W5RH

What is the most important number in the Amateur Radio hobby? 73, 88, 331, 340, 468 or 1005 ? Well, depending on what area of the hobby you hover, you will think differently than your fellow hams. 73 is universally known as the QSO ending salutation, as is 88, if you are talking to ‘good lookin’ at the other end. 331 and 340 have to do with DXCC and Honor Roll. But at the top of the list for all hams is the number 468. Of course, if you are into full wave loops then 1005 is paramount.

468 is the number, when divided by F (the desired design frequency in MHz), that gives you the length, in feet, of a half wavelength antenna. Note that this is not an exact calculation, as our antennas exist in an environment of atmosphere and mankind. But where does 468 come from and when did it appear in Ham Radio lore? My collection of ARRL Antenna handbooks goes back to Issue #1 1939 and 468 appears in that version. So I went back to earlier versions of the Radio Amateur’s Handbook (now known as the ARRL Handbook, as of 1996) and QST. If you are an ARRL member you can search QST back to the first issue. Which I did, but trying to find a search key word within the nomenclature for antenna design that doesn’t appear in every bloody antenna article since the beginning of ham-time is difficult. Long story short, I found a reference to the same research at the eham.net web site. * Ward Silver, N0AX, a former keynote speaker at the Greater Houston Ham Fest, described, in an eHam article, his hunt for the 468 treasure throughout the ARRL Headquarter’s library archives. He found the first 468 reference in the 1929 Radio Amateur Handbook, but going back even further he found references to experimental discovery articles in QST in 1925 and 1926. In the end, Ward discovered that it was thru empirical measurement that the formula: $L = 468/F$ was found..

The equation, however, only gets us to a starting point. If you have ever designed and erected an HF dipole, most times you end up “tuning” it for best SWR. Why isn’t it exact? Because there are two main factors that affect the resonant length. 1) the “K factor” – wire length to wire diameter ratio; and 2) “end effect” – additional loading due to the wire end insulators causing a small, additional capacitance. Ward suggests, in the end, that you use $490/F$ to get a length that gives you a little more “schnully”, (an Amish, Pennsylvania Dutch term for extra length). This way you won’t cut your wire too short and have to add on, plus you’ll have plenty to wrap around your end insulators.

If you wish to dig into antenna design lore a bit more, have a read of one of the various antenna handbooks about antenna “end effect”, the ‘K’ factor, height above ground versus feed Z and other characteristics of antenna design and deployment issues. This excursion into the physical heart of the matter will provide you with a sense of understanding. Will it improve your DXCC count? Probably not, but you can sleep more soundly at night knowing that you know the why’s and how’s of basic antenna design. I will admit here that this is only the top of the tip of the iceberg of antenna understanding, but it is a start to a journey. A journey that, along the way and in the end, is quite satisfying. And, a path thru the hobby that will certainly add to your enjoyment of Amateur Radio.

- See: <https://www.eham.net/article/23802> “Where Does 486 Come From” – Ward Silver, N0AX

Enjoy your hobby....73, Rick, W5RH

The purpose of **The Radio Hotel** is to give you a practical kick start into exploring the workings of antenna systems Google the buzz words and find out what they mean. Read up on antenna system theory to see how it all works together. You will be glad you did.

**Where in the World is . . .
The Seychelles Islands (S7)
CQ Zone 39
IOTA AF-024**

The Seychelles is an archipelago of 115 islands in the Indian Ocean off East Africa, known for its beaches, coral reefs, diving, nature reserves and rare wildlife such as giant Aldabra tortoises. Mahé island, with an international airport, is a key transport hub, home to capital Victoria, the mountain rainforests, Seychellois National Park and white-sand beaches.

The Seychelles were uninhabited throughout most of recorded history. The earliest recorded sighting by Europeans took place in 1502 by the Portuguese Admiral Vasco da Gama, who passed through the Amirantes and named them after himself (islands of the Admiral). Nice Going Vasco.



A transit point for trade between Africa and Asia, the islands were occasionally used by pirates until the French took over in 1756. During the Napoleonic Wars, Britain eventually assumed full control upon the surrender of neighboring Mauritius in 1810. Seychelles became a British Crown Colony separate from Mauritius in 1903. Elections were held in 1966 and 1970.

When the British gained control of the islands, they allowed the French upper class to retain their land. Both the French and British settlers used enslaved Africans, and although the British prohibited slavery in 1835, African workers continued to come. Thus the *Gran blan* ("big whites") of French origin dominated economic and political life. The British administration employed Indians on indentured servitude resulting in a small Indian population.

Through harmonious socioeconomic policies and developments over the years, today Seychelles is described as a fusion of peoples and cultures. Numerous Seychellois are considered multiracial: blending from African, Asian and European descent to create a modern creole culture. Evidence of this harmonious blend is also revealed in seychellois food, incorporating various aspects of French, Chinese, Indian and African cuisine.

As the islands of Seychelles had no indigenous population, the current Seychellois are composed of people who have immigrated. The largest ethnic groups were those of African, French, Indian and Chinese descent. French and English are official languages along with Seychellois Creole, which is primarily based upon French, yet nowadays is often laced with English words and phrases.



The prime agricultural products currently produced in the Seychelles include sweet potatoes, vanilla, coconuts and cinnamon. These products provide much of the economic support of the locals.



In 1971, with the opening of Seychelles International Airport, tourism became a significant industry, essentially dividing the economy into plantations and tourism. The tourism sector paid better, and the plantation economy could only expand so far. The plantation sector of the economy declined in prominence, and tourism became the primary industry of Seychelles.

In recent years the government has encouraged foreign investment to upgrade hotels and other services. These incentives have given rise to an enormous amount of investment in real estate projects and new resort properties. The government has moved to reduce the dependence on tourism by promoting the development of farming, fishing, and small-scale manufacturing and most recently the offshore financial sector. Sounds like a good place to stash your money too.

The Aldabra Giant Tortoise populates many of the islands of the Seychelles. These unique reptiles can be found even in captive herds.

There are several unique varieties of orchids on the islands. Seychelles hosts some of the largest seabird colonies in the world. The marine life around the islands, especially the more remote coral islands, can be spectacular. More than 1,000 species of fish have been recorded.

According to QRZ.Com, there are 129 licensed amateurs, although many of them are foreign visitors or DXpeditions. The Seychelles are 158th on the list of Most Wanted DXCC list according to Club Log.

Reporting from the Dark Side,

Ron, K5HM



ARISS at St. Stephen's Episcopal School Houston
Prepared by Charlie Larrabee, KG5QNO

It's late July, summer break is nearing an end, and families are getting ready to head back to school. I wanted to give an update on the state of our ARISS project so far. For those of you who did not see the Zoom presentation in March, I will give a quick recap of what we talked about, and where we have come since then! It has been a lot of fun bringing more Ham Radio projects into my classroom, and I hope some of the information here will help other parents and teachers who are are interested in Ham Radio education.

My name is Charlie, and I teach a STEM class called Da Vinci Classroom. After several application cycles with ARISS, we were approved to make a scheduled contact with the International Space Station. As the ISS orbits above our school this fall, the students will have a special window of about ten minutes, where they will make a radio link from our school station to one of the astronauts onboard. During this time, students will ask their most pressing questions that only an astronaut can answer. This event will happen in October, and it will be simulcast online.

I've had a lot of help so far, especially from Jeff Greer (W5JEF), Walter Holmes (K5WH), and Jeff MacMillan (KC5TT). We've tackled a lot of setup challenges, like setting up the Yaesu Azimuth-Elevation rotator, computer control for the Icom IC9700, and mounting Yagi and eggbeater antennas. In the meantime, my students have been doing some really fun projects that I would like to share!

In April, we leveled up from the micro-sized Fox Hunts on campus, and did a weekend Fox Hunt at Kickerillo-Mischer Park. The students had to find four transmitters hidden around the park (these used the Big Red Bee 70cm RF Transmitter Beacon), and mark their punch cards with a special punch. This was a much bigger challenge than usual, as students had to walk about a half mile to find all the Foxes. They worked in groups with a parent volunteer, and kids had big fun while they learned about radio propagation and teamwork!

In May, our Upper Elementary Balloon Launch Team sent out a Pico Balloon, which consisted of a spherical party balloon and a Zachtex WSPR-TX tracker. Students met once a week for six weeks prior to launch time, and learned about concepts like the Maidenhead Locator System, Geofencing, measuring weight, and measuring lift. Since launch, our first balloon has been incredibly successful – it is currently on its SECOND trip around the Earth. I am grateful for the knowledge shared by the Houston Balloon Team!



<https://vimeo.com/709627075/ebf2c8454e>

In July, we did a Morse code summer camp. Campers built their own key, programmed a microcontroller, and hooked the whole system up to the Internet so they could chat on vBand (Hamradio.solutions/vband). The key was a version of K4TWJ's Wild Woody WARC Key, which uses a clothespin as the key, and it was connected to the Raspberry Pi Pico, and programmed with Circuit Python to behave as a USB keyboard. The vBand website is a student friendly learning environment, and I would recommend it to anyone who is genuinely interested in practicing Morse Code.

<https://hamradio.solutions/vband/>

That's about it for project updates – this fall we will be tightening up our Earth station to be ready for solid sat passes! Students will be doing more radio and electronics related projects, and everyone will be dreaming up the best questions to ask our astronaut this fall. If you have any questions or comments, please email or call me on the repeater. 73!

DE, KG5QNO



Editor's Note: Many changes have been made to the info on the next page. If any of this is inaccurate, please let the Editor know so changes can be made before the next issue.

2022 Officers:

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

Vice President (2021-2022)
Jimmy Vance, NA5D

Recording Secretary (2022-2023)
Jeff Greer, W5JEF
greerjw@hotmail.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
Ki5lic@yahoo.com

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
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.
Check www.BVARC.org for more current info.

Volunteer Examiner Program
The monthly ham testing session normally takes place on the same day and location as the BOD Meeting, but at 10:30 AM. However, for August, it will be on August 6. Please check the BVARC website for any last minute changes or updates and meeting location.

Nets:

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

QuestionAIR Net
Come join us for a new Net hosted by Charlotte (KI5TRQ) and Henry (K5HRP) every Tuesday at 7:00 PM on 146.940 MHz with a – Shift and PL Tone of 167.9

Slow Speed CW Net
Thursday Evenings at 8 PM on 7.090 +/- 5 KHz

Stir Crazy Net
Every day Mon-Fri at noon (12pm) on the 146.94
(PL Tone is 167.9, – shift)

Monday Night Net (AKA Public Service Net)
Every Monday 8PM on 146.94 repeater. (PL Tone is 167.9, – shift)

GHSN Simplex Net
4th Thursday propagation net at 7:00 pm on 146.540 MHz simplex (w/o tones and an alternate frequency of 147.540 MHz). Preceded at 6:15 by an informational educational Zoom meeting. Zoom li



Advertising in the BVARC Newsletter

Rates are as follows; \$15 Business Card size (2 x 3-1/2"), \$25 per monthly 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.



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

If anyone has info about this monthly luncheon, please provide that info to the Editor.



Hamfests

(typically within 200 miles of Houston)

Ham Expo – Fall 2022. The Belton Hamfest

October 1, 2022. 7AM – 1PM.

Bell County Expo Center, 301 W Loop 121

Belton, TX

<https://tarc.org/hamexpo>

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

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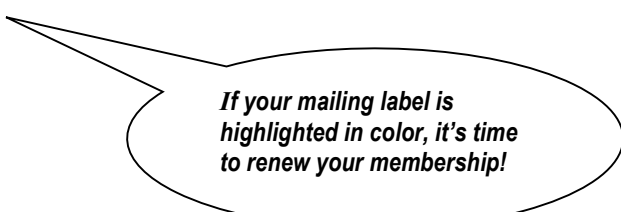
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**BRAZOS VALLEY
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FIRST CLASS POSTAGE

August 11, 2022 – General Membership Meeting /
Ice Cream Social



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