



# BVARC BEACON

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



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FEBRUARY 2023

VOLUME 47 ISSUE 2

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## February General Membership Meeting notice

Thursday, February 9, 2023, 7:00 PM  
Community Volunteer Fire Department conference room;  
16005 Bellaire Blvd.

Tentatively both via Zoom and In-Person

The featured speaker will be Mark Janzer, K5MGJ, who will talk about developments with the Museum Ship's Weekend and his related plans throughout the year.

The Zoom information will be sent via the Reflector and be posted on the website about a week before the meeting. PLEASE verify the times and other details before getting into the car to go to the meeting or sitting down to attend the Zoom meeting.



## Editor's Notes:

1. **EARLY CUTOFF FOR MARCH BEACON.** We plan on getting the March BEACON into the member's hands, potential advertisers and potential vendor participants before the Greater Houston HamFest. All articles must be received by February 20 (2 days before the default deadline) so the Editor and the Assembly team have reasonable time to get it to you the week of the Greater Houston HamFest.
2. **UPCOMING DECISIONS REGARDING THE FUTURE FORMAT OF THE BEACON.** Many members have expressed interest in what the BEACON will comprise of in the future and have sent e-mails to the leadership about their preferences for e-mail delivery vs mailed hardcopy delivery. The club leadership is still feverishly getting all the information required to decide about the future format of the BEACON. The goal is to get the hamfest behind us and then for the board to resolve this at the April board meeting. We all look forward to seeing these changes implemented at that time.
3. **MARK JANZER'S ARTICLE IN THE JANUARY QST.** In case you missed it, please read the article by "BVARC's own" Mark Janzer, K5MGJ, in the January QST, Pages 80 & 81.. Congratulations go out to Mark.

# The Prez Says

The new year is moving fast with February already behind us. And to start the year off on a positive note, we had the BVARC's annual awards banquet. Over 50 people attended a well catered event that started out with a snack plate, multiple entrees, tons of veggies ending with cheesecake for dessert. Our caterer, No Small Affair, did an excellent job and hopefully they will be back again in the future. After missing last year due to COVID, the banquet was a great way to get the ball rolling for the year. There is more information on the banquet elsewhere in the newsletter.

I do want to thank Rick Hiller, W5RH, who did an excellent job on the video program that played throughout the banquet. Rick has done several video programs over the years as well as providing excellent support for the banquet. Thanks Rick, for your hard work.

The new year will have with several other club events. Make sure you put them on your calendar:

January 28 <sup>th</sup> /29 <sup>th</sup>	Winter Field Day	Brazos Bend State Park
February 7	Brews with BVARC	6pm, No Label Brewing Co, 5351 1 <sup>st</sup> Street, Katy
February 19 <sup>th</sup>	Parks on the Air	San Jacinto Monument

These events will be coordinated by Anthony Morones, W5LIC and Kori Rahman, WX5KR. If you need more information, give them a call. Hats off to Anthony and Kori for putting these events together.

We have less than 6 weeks to go for the Greater Houston HamFest. Everyone on 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 GHHF successful. We still need volunteers for the event and if you are interested in helping, contact myself or Eddie Runner and let us know. There will be a GHHF meeting every Thursday evening up to the March 2<sup>nd</sup>. COME ON OUT TO HELP THE LARGEST HAMFEST IN TEXAS!

After the GHHF, we have Museum ships and Field Day. Now is the time to start planning for Field Day and how you could help out. If you would like to get involved, contact anyone on the BOD.

Coming up for the February 9<sup>th</sup> meeting, we will have Mark Janzer, K5MGJ. Mark will be talking about Museum Ships Weekend and what he is planning for this year. If you have the time, come out to the meeting and see what you can do to help Mark for MSWE.

Hope to see everyone at the February meeting.

73, N5VCX



## BVARC BOD /Testing and Training Dates

Submitted by Mike Hardwick, N5VCX

I thought I would list the BVARC BOD and training dates for 2023. The location for both the BOD/testing and training meeting is at the Bayland Community Center. Please mark your calendars. Remember the BOD meetings are from 9:00 AM to 10:30 and testing is from 10:30 AM to 1:00 PM.

February 4th, 2023	March 4th, 2023	April 1st, 2023	May 6th, 2023
June 10th, 2023	July 8th, 2023	August 5th, 2023	September 9th, 2023
October 7th, 2023	November 4th, 2023	December 9th, 2023	

We now have reserved space for training or license classes or whatever anyone wants to do. If you would like to reserve a classroom day, please contact the BOD and let them know. The classroom time is from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

February 18th, 2023	March 18th, 2023	April 15th, 2023	May 20th, 2023
July 22nd, 2023	August 19th, 2023	September 23rd, 2023	October 21st, 2023
November 18th, 2023	December 16th, 2023		

**Don't forget to mark the dates!**

**MINUTES**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club**  
January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 9:00 AM; Via Videoconference

Members Present:

• Mike Hardwick – N5VCX  
(President)  
• Kori Rahman – WX5KR  
(Vice President)  
• Michael Manciaz – W5SPC  
(Rec. Secretary)

• David Ely – N5EKW  
(Treasurer)  
• Jeff Greer – W5JEF  
(Cor. Secretary)

• Anthony Morones – W5LIC  
(2 yr. at large director)  
• Terry Leatherland – K5PGF  
(1 yr. at large director)

Guests Present: • Eddie Runner – NU5K • Stephen Flowers – W2WF

1. Call to Order: The President called the meeting to order at 9:03 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: December meeting minutes was corrected.
7. Approval of Treasurer's Report: Read and Approved.
8. Corresponding Secretary: Report approved as presented.
9. Old Business:
  - Newsletter – Tabled
  - Banquet
    - i. Club will subsidize meal costs for banquet, as the meals cost more than we are charging. Changes Approved.
    - ii. Awards have been chosen for the banquet.
  - Winter Field Day
    - i. Winter field cost discussed
10. New Business:
  - Guest Speaker for banquet will not be available, looking for a new speaker.
  - \$500 approved for Awards.
  - \$750 approved for Winter Field Day.
  - Club will fund food at general meetings. \$100 Approved.
11. Next BoD Meeting Date: February 4<sup>th</sup> at 9 AM on Zoom.
12. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned 10:40 AM.

*Michael Manciaz – W5SPC (Recording Secretary)*



NU5K - Eddie  
KBSYTA - Dwayne  
KBSOBB - Eddie Jr  
KF5RKJ - BLake  
W5LIC - Anthony

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# **The Radio Hotel – Understanding Antennas ...and the Antenna System**

by Rick Hiller W5RH

An area of Ham Radio that is of interest to everybody is that of the Antenna System. The antenna (the load), the transmission line, the ATU (matching network) and the source (the transmitter/receiver) are the major components. In the end we are all most interested in the overall performance of this system when we are on the air. Antenna Systems, are they plug and play? Yes, they can be, but really shouldn't be. It is best and to your benefit to understand at least the basics of what is the antenna system: its' attributes, its' features and just what makes it tick.

As Hams, the main points of our antenna design and building process is to get the most out of gain, front to back ratio and efficiency by utilizing resonance, feed Z, SWR (return loss), pattern, angle of radiation. Some we calculate, some we adjust for and some we just accept.

The Antenna System for transmit consists of the source (radio) the transmission line (coax) and the antenna (the load). Not much to say for the source except that it can be from 160 meters up thru the GHz range, but focused on 160 thru 2 meters is the bulk of the sources. Power out of 5 W, 100 W or 1500 W is the other variable.

The BVARC web page of Tech Articles has a complete compilation of The Radio Hotel columns <https://bvarc.org/home/tech-downloads/> Take a look at The Radio Hotel series of columns all about **The Antenna – February 2015 thru November 2015**. This 9 part series explains the different important attributes of an antenna system. Note that any antenna is affected by its' local surroundings. The stated attributes, quantities and characteristics are mostly all approximate due to the local environments affect. They are close enough to get us in the ball park of where we wish to be, but not exact.

Now, getting power to the load is more of an exact science. Transmission lines can be described mathematically. In fact, that is how they are designed -- with equations. Check out another series of **The Radio Hotel -- all about SWR** on the transmission lines (coax or twin lead, etc.) This is a whole new area of understanding. **7 Parts from May 2014 thru December 2014.**

Please extend your knowledge search to other Radio Hotel articles or books and articles from other authors, of which there are many. Maybe the style that I write in does not suit you very well, but another author will be of a style that will have you understanding everything easily. I have always said, some like Bill Bryson, some like James Michner.

Knowing just the basics of antenna theory and transmission line theory and how it affects our ham radio stations' performance is a cardinal rule of being a Ham. I have always said that our antennas from the transmitter/receiver out to and including the antenna is a "system" and understanding that "system" is the way forward to a more enjoyable Ham Radio experience. Enjoy your hobby – W5RH

*(Note: I was scheduled to give the February meeting presentation about the HF antenna system but family medical circumstances got in the way and when you read this I will be in W3 land. I will do the HF Antenna presentation at a later date)*

# 2022 BVARC AWARDS BANQUET

After missing last year due to COVID, the BVARC awards banquet was a welcomed sight. With over 50 people attending the banquet, it was a great success with plenty of food and fellowship. BVARC is over 45 years old and from what I can find out there has been a banquet almost every year since the start of the club. That says a lot about an organization that continues with a tradition for this length of time.

And the tradition continues with the BVARC awards. Due to COVID issues last year and a lack of interest the two years early, no awards have been presented since 2019. This year has been different with good interest and votes. A good number of BVARC members voted for their candidate for the four main awards that the club has. These awards are presented to members that excel in certain areas of the amateur radio hobby. The awards are:

**The Order of the Key – The Club's Highest Honor** – A member excels in service to the club and amateur radio

**The Loop and Zepp Award** – A member excels in promoting operation in the HF bands

**The K1JT (Dr Joe Taylor) Award** - A member excels in promoting operation for the VHF & UHF bands

**The Dr Bill** – A member that is a VE excels in support for amateur radio testing

## Order of the Key Award



Jeff Greer, W5JEF

## Loop and Zepp Award



Anthony Morones, W5LIC & Kori Rahman, WX5KR

## K1JT Award



John Whiteman, K5LJK

## Dr. Bill Award



Mark Janzer, K5MGJ accepting for  
Richard Goldy, K5GOL

I want to thank these members for the hard work that they have done for the club and amateur radio. Their diligence and drive have really given the hobby a shot in the arm. Thank you for your hard work.

There were also several other presentations made for club members that have made contributions over the last two years.

**The Sloppy Joe Award** - Daphne Rawlinson, K5VQY & Scott Medbury, KD5FBA & Lou Ann Medbury – The three musketeers have been providing great food and service to the club for several years.

**The Best Idea Ever Award** – Paul Easter, WW5PA -Paul brought an idea down from Yankee land on having a noon day night to help with COVID cabin fever. That idea turned into the Stir-Crazy NET which is the most active net in Houston.

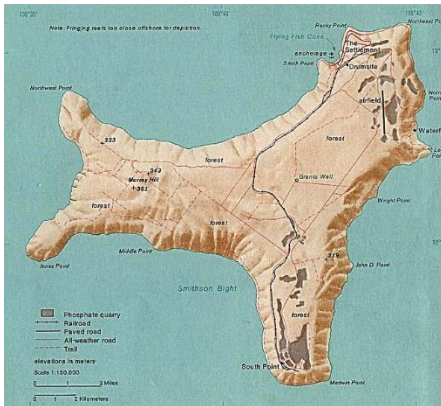
**The Keep At It Award** – Eddie Runner, NU5K - Eddie has the unique personality trait of never giving up on an idea – even when its wrong. He is just like the energizer bunny and never stops. He just keeps after it!

**The 2 X 4 Award** – John Chauvin, K5IZO - As editor John has several people to deal with on trying to get the newsletter out on time. Everyone does fairly well on getting their articles in on time except for one person. That person makes John wish he could grab a 2 X 4 and administer some sense into the person. **Yes, John I will do better, after this newsletter!**

I want to thank everyone for all of their hard work and effort on keeping the club and hobby alive.



Where is the World is . . .  
**Christmas Island, (VK9X)**  
**OC-002**



That's right little Jimmy. Do you think Santa Clause really likes living at the North Pole? He prefers the temperate climates of the tropics. Christmas Island is a territory of Australia in the Indian Ocean. It has a population of 2,072 residents who live in several "settlement areas" on the northern tip of the island variously called Flying Fish Cove, Kampong, Silver City, Poon Saan and Drumsite (I will leave the visual picture of the last two to the reader). Most of the population are Chinese Australian. It is called Christmas Island because it was discovered on Christmas Day, 1643 by Capt. William Mynors of the Royal Mary an East India Company trading vessel as he sailed past it. In 1957, the island was transferred from the U.K. to Australian sovereignty.

Geographically, the island lies closer to Central Java than Australia but it seems that the Indonesians aren't interested and the Australians aren't having much luck either. Phosphate mining had been the only significant economic activity, but in December 1987 the Australian government closed the mine. In 1991, the mine was reopened by a consortium which included many of the former mine workers as shareholders. With the support of the government, the \$34 million Christmas Island Casino and Resort opened in 1993 but was closed in 1998. As of 2011, the resort has re-opened without the casino.

The Australian government in 2001 agreed to support the creation of a commercial spaceport on the island, however this has not yet been constructed, and appears that it will not proceed in the future. The Australian government built a temporary immigration detention center on the island in 2001. Christmas Island ranks 69<sup>th</sup> on the DXCC Most Wanted List.

**Kiritimati (The Other Christmas Island) (T32)**  
**OC-024**

Kiritimati or Christmas Island is a Pacific Ocean raised coral atoll in the northern Line Islands, and part of the Republic of Kiribati. The name "Kiritimati" is a rather straightforward respelling of the English word "Christmas" in Gilbertese, in which the combination *ti* is pronounced *s*, and the name is thus pronounced [kə' risməs]. The island has the greatest land area of any coral atoll in the world: about 150 sq mi; its lagoon is about the same size. The atoll is about 93 mi in perimeter, while the lagoon shoreline extends for over 30 mi. Christmas Island comprises over 70% of the total land area of Kiribati, a country encompassing 33 Pacific atolls and islands. It lies 144 mi north of the Equator, 4,160 mi from Sydney, and 3,330 mi from San Francisco. Christmas Island is in the world's farthest forward time zone, UTC+14 and is one of the first inhabited places on Earth to experience the New Year.



Christmas Island was discovered by the Spanish in 1537. Captain James Cook visited it on Christmas Eve (24 December) 1777. It was claimed by the United States under the Guano Islands Act of 1856. During the 1840s, guano came to be prized as a source of saltpeter for gunpowder as well as an agricultural fertilizer. In 1855, the U.S. learned of rich guano deposits on islands in the Pacific Ocean. Congress passed the Guano Islands Act to take advantage of these deposits. It allowed any citizen of the United States who discovers a deposit of guano on any island, rock, or key, not within the lawful jurisdiction of any other Government, and not occupied by the citizens of any other Government, to take peaceable possession of, such island, rock, or key

and the discretion of the President, be considered as a part of the United States. In 1983, the island was ceded to the Republic of Kiribati as most Americans had plenty of guano from their politicians.

Christmas island has been visited by eight recent DX-peditions. As part of Eastern Kiribati, it is the 154<sup>th</sup> most wanted DXCC entity.

Reporting from the Dark Side,

Ron, K5HM



## **BVARC Rag Chew Net**

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

12/21/22, K5LKJ (NCS), K5LJ, KG5ICR, W5VOM, AA5OA (Percy, AR), W5TKZ, K5TPC, AA0ST (Dickinson), KE5CDE (Belton), KE5PYX (Evondale). (10 Check-Ins)  
Solar Cycle 25: SFI = 139, SN = 103, A = 13, K = 1 / Band Rpt: FAIR

12/28/22, K5LKJ (NCS), W5VOM, WW5PA, KF5ONT (Conroe), KD5AUU (Cypress), W5TKZ, KI5NPM/5 (Canyon Lake), K5LJ, KG5ICR, K5RBC (Lake Jackson), AA5OA (Percy, AR), K5TPC, KE5CNG (Sour Lake), KF5OVF (Needville). (15 Check-Ins)  
Solar Cycle 25: SFI = 160, SN = 88, A = 6, K = 0 / Band Rpt: GOOD

01/04/23, K5LKJ (NCS), W5TKZ, K5LJ, WW5PA, KG5ICR, KJ5Y/5 (R)(Steamboat Springs, CO)(Angleton), W5VOM, K5APB (Mindon, LA), KE5YF (Sweetwater), N5HAR (Sweetwater), W5SV, KE5SR (Branson, MO), K5RBC (Lake Jackson). (14 Check-Ins)  
Solar Cycle 25: SFI = 151, SN = 86, A = 24, K = 2 / Band Rpt: GOOD

01/11/23, K5LKJ (NCS), K5LJ, K5TPC, KD5AUU (Cypress), W5VOM, W5ALW, KI5AXD (Alvin), AA0ST (Dickinson), WB5KTF (Austin), W1BG (Katy), KG5ICR, W5TKZ, AA5OA (Percy, AR), W2WF, W5RH, N5VCX, N5JRY. (17 Check-Ins)  
Solar Cycle 25: SFI = 195, SN = 283, A = 9, K = 2 / Band Rpt: GOOD

01/18/23, K5LKJ (NCS), K5JPP, W1BG (Katy), W5VOM, WW5PA, W5TKZ, K5TPC, K5LJ, AA0ST (Dickinson), W5SV, W5LIC, KG5ICR, K5RBC (Lake Jackson), KI5HOC, KF5ONT (Conroe), AA5OA (Percy, AR), KB5YTA (T). (17 Check-Ins)  
Solar Cycle 25: SFI = 220, SN = 164, A = 18, K = 1 / 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. 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



**HAMFESTS ARE BACK.**

Go to page 9 to see a list of 6 hamfests that we are aware of that are within 200 miles of Houston. There are 3 on consecutive weekends, one on either side of the Greater Houston HamFest.

## January VE - FCC TESTING SESSIONS RESULTS

For Saturday, January 7th, we had 9 candidates and conducted 17 tests.

### New Licensees:

Reiter, M (Technician)  
Ritter, L. (Technician) (Youth)  
Gutierrez, J. (Technician)  
Gurrola, J. (Technician)  
Scott, B. (Technician)  
Gardner, C. (General)  
Gardner, C. D. (General)

### Upgrades:

KI5ZDD (General)  
KI5YSS (Extra)

VEs in attendance – K5GOL, K5LJ, W5LIC, and WX5KR – **THANKS!**

Congratulations to all!

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### BVARC Testing Statistics Summary for 2022

Applicants served	79
% Success rate (new or upgrade)	92%
New Techs	41
New Generals	22
New Extras	10
New BVARC members	20
Total tests given	123

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The next BVARC test session is **Saturday, February 4th 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 for new, renewal and vanity calls.** 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 for \$5, can walk into a test session and walk out with a new radio and a pending license.**

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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](mailto:k5mgj@yahoo.com)).



## HAVE YOU STEPPED UP TO PARTICIPATE IN THE GREATER HOUSTON HAMFEST YET?

BVARC needs members to take part in the **Greater Houston HamFest**. There is still time to do your part in the planning and preparations and of course, during the event itself. **No Experience Necessary!** This is our first year as a full 2-day event. This is a quantum leap for the **Greater Houston HamFest** and therefore requires a quantum leap in involved members. Go to [www.houstonhamfest.org](http://www.houstonhamfest.org) to see info on the event and how you can participate.



## 2023 Officers:

President (2022-2023)

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

Vice President (2023-2024)

Kori Rahman, WX5KR [kori113@gmail.com](mailto:kori113@gmail.com)

Recording Secretary (balance of 2022 – 2023)

Mike Manciaz -- W5SPC, [michael.manciaz@gmail.com](mailto:michael.manciaz@gmail.com)

Corresponding Secretary (2021-2022)

Jeff Greer, W5JEF, [greerjw@hotmail.com](mailto:greerjw@hotmail.com)

Treasurer (2021-2022)

David Ely, N5EKW, [Davidely@prodigy.net](mailto:Davidely@prodigy.net)

2 Year At-Large Board Member A: (2022-2023)

Anthony Morones, W5LIC, [W5lictx@gmail.com](mailto:W5lictx@gmail.com)

2 Year At-Large Board Member B: (2023-2024)

Drew Dasher, N1ER, [Adasher18@hotmail.com](mailto:Adasher18@hotmail.com)

1 Year At Large (2023)

Terry Leatherland, K5PGF, [K5pgf@yahoo.com](mailto:K5pgf@yahoo.com)

### Regularly Scheduled Club Happenings:

#### General Meeting

Both in person and zoom

Second Thursday each month. 7:00PM

Check [www.BVARC.org](http://www.BVARC.org) for more current info.

#### Board of Directors Meeting

The Saturday before the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday, 9:00 AM

Both in-person and Zoom

Bayland Park Community Center

Bayland Park, 6400 Bissonnet, Houston.

Check [www.BVARC.org](http://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. However, please check the BVARC website for any last minute changes or updates. The meeting location is open, however please check the [www.BVARC.org](http://www.BVARC.org) for 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

Stir Crazy Net is held each weekday at noon. Check [www.BVARC.org](http://www.BVARC.org) for current info.

Greater Houston Simplex Net 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday, propagation net, 7:00 PM, on 146.54 MHz simplex and an alternate frequency of 147.54.

QuestionAIR every Tuesday at 7:00 PM on 146.94, negative (-) shift, PL Tone of 167.9.

## Advertising in the BVARC Newsletter

Rates are as follows: Business card sized ads are \$10 each or 6 monthly installments for \$50; Half (½) page -\$25 per month for \$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

Due to space limitations, this will return next month. Check the website for current details.

## Hamfests

(typically within 200 miles of Houston)

### 02/25/2023 - Orange (Texas) Hamfest 2023

**Location:** Orange, TX

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Orange Amateur Radio Club and Jefferson County ARC

**Website:** [https://www.qsl.net/w5nd/index\\_files/HAMFEST%20NFO/hamfest%20info](https://www.qsl.net/w5nd/index_files/HAMFEST%20NFO/hamfest%20info)

### 03/03/2023 - 03/04/2023

#### Greater Houston HamFest - ARRL Texas State Convention

**Location:** Rosenberg, TX

**Type:** ARRL Convention

**Sponsor:** Brazos Valley ARC

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

### 03/11/2023 - Acadiana DX Association Hamfest and Swapmeet

**Location:** Rayne, LA

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Acadiana DX Association

**Website:** <https://www.kn5grk.com/ADXA%20Hamfest>

### 04/15/2023 - Ham EXPO

**Location:** Belton, TX

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Temple Amateur Radio Club

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

### 06/16-17/2023 - Radio Fiesta,

**Location:** Schertz, TX, suburban San Antonio.

The webpage says - "Further details and what will transpire on each day will be available in the spring of 2023."

**Website:** <https://w5sc.org/radio-fiesta/>

Austin Summerfest - As of the date of publishing this February BEACON, we have heard nothing about the Austin Summerfest, but assume it will be in August of 2023. This will be announced in the BEACON when we become aware of the details.

# 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](http://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 both in-person and via ZOOM on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month at 7:30 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 takes place typically on the Saturday before the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

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

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.

The QuestionAIR Net is held every Tuesday at 7:00 PM on 146.94, negative (-) shift, PL Tone of 167.9.

To obtain information about joining **BVARC** or its activities, see the BVARC website: [www.bvarc.org](http://www.bvarc.org)

Other contacts include:

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

Newsletter Editor, John Chauvin, K5IZO, [k5izo@yahoo.com](mailto:k5izo@yahoo.com)

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Gokhan Koralturk, KG0KHN, [gokkor@gmail.com](mailto:gokkor@gmail.com)

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VOLUME 47, ISSUE 2


February 2023

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

FIRST CLASS POSTAGE

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General Membership Meeting – February 9, 2023



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



# Greater Houston HamFest

## ARRL TEXAS STATE CONVENTION



### Tickets:

Online - \$10

At the Door - \$15

Children 12 & Under,  
Scouts, Military,  
& First Responders  
In Uniform - FREE

Tables - \$25

Tailgate - \$5

### Sponsors/Vendors

- Ham Radio Outlet
- Radioddity
- Signal Stuff
- EPO
- River Oaks Car Stereo
- ABR Industries
- The SignMan of Baton Rouge
- Bioenno Power
- DX Engineering
- HamRadio Deluxe
- Heil Ham Radio



### When:

Friday March 3, 2023  
2PM - 8PM

Saturday March 4, 2023  
8AM - 3PM



### Where:

Fort Bend County Fairgrounds  
4310 TX- 36 S, Rosenberg, TX 77471  
29°31'12" N 95°48'38" W



### Contact:

Chairman: Mike Hardwick - N5VCX  
713-826-6917  
Co-Chair: Eddie Runner - NU5K  
713-569-8799

[www.HoustonHamfest.org](http://www.HoustonHamfest.org)



[FB.com/groups/HoustonHamfest](https://www.facebook.com/groups/HoustonHamfest)



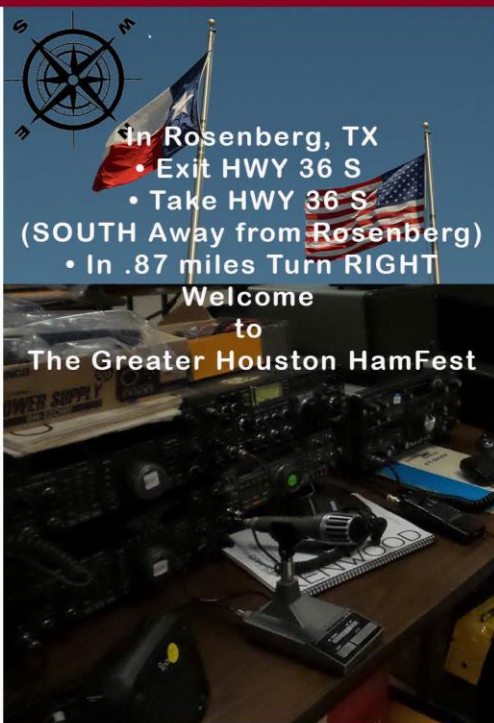
[Twitter.com/HoustonHamfest](https://twitter.com/HoustonHamfest)



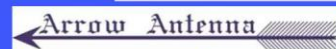
# Greater Houston HamFest

## ARRL TEXAS STATE CONVENTION

### FORT BEND COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS



Special Thanks to:  
RT Systems



#### Contact:

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713-826-6917  
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