



BV ARC BEACON

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



MARCH 2023

VOLUME 47 ISSUE 3

March General Membership Meeting notice

Thursday, March 9, 2023, 5:30 Dinner, 6:45 PM Meeting

This meeting. will be a field trip to Transtar. See the article inside this issue, Page 7, with the full details. For those that wish to have dinner ahead of the tour, we will meet at a restaurant near Transtar at 5:30 PM. Others just go to Transtar before 6:45 PM. The diners will drive a few blocks to Transtar for the tour to begin at 6:45 PM.



GREATER HOUSTON HAMFEST

March 3 & 4, 2023

Ft. Bend County Fairgrounds

Rosenberg, TX

As you receive the mailed copy of this newsletter, the Ham fest will be only several days away. See the flyer inside this issue on page 3. More info is given in "The Prez Says" on the next page.

With just a few days left, there are lots of activities still needing member participation during the event itself. Attend the Ham fest but give 1 or 2 hours each day to help make this 2-Day event an outstanding success. Go to the website www.houstonhamfest.org and then click on the volunteer page to join in.



Museum Ships Weekend

Planning and preparations for Museum Ships Weekend, June 3-5, are in full swing. It's one of BVARC's legacy annual operating events. It is a great introduction to operating in conditions like Field Day, in a non-competitive event. All members are welcome to participate. The event will be held at Seawolf Park on Pelican Island. We'll have up to three stations available for operations. Food and (non-alcoholic) beverages will be available. There will be limited overnight accommodations available on the Stewart for operators.

We're planning for a mobilization party early in April, to repair some of the antennas and prepare for the June event. The date will be announced, though contact Mark Janzer (K5MGJ), to express your interest and to help out.



The Prez Says

It is finally here - the Greater Houston HamFest. After many months of planning, the two-day event is just a few days away. It has taken a lot of people a lot of work to put the event together this year.

After a two-year absence, the GHHF is back as a two-day event along with a major new equipment vendor. Ham Radio Outlet agreed to come to the largest ham fest in Texas. This is a plus for GHHF since it has been many years since we have been able to get a major vendor to attend. Thanks go to Robert at HRO and his team coming down to ham fest.

Thanks also go to the other vendors that are attending. Without the support of ABR Industries, Electronic Parts Outlet, The Sign Man of Baton Rouge, River Oaks Car Stereo and Rocco Enterprises, and many others, the ham fest would not have happened.

And I want to thank the volunteers that will be helping out the GHHF. Without them, the event would be next to impossible to do. Saying that, we still need volunteers for the event on March 3rd and 4th. Call me if you would like to volunteer.

So, lots of thanks to the Vendors, volunteers and finally the attendees for the 20th anniversary of the Greater Houston HamFest. Thank you for your effort on making the GHHF the largest in the state.

Coming up on the next BVARC general meeting on March 9th, we will have a road trip to TranStar on Old Katy Road. More information on the road trip is in the newsletter.

On March 18th, BVAFC will be sponsoring a Ham-in-a-day class at the Bayland Community Center. All the information is in the newsletter so if you have a friend or neighbor who is interested in getting their license, they should make it out to the class. 4

Don't forget the next POTA event in March. Information will be forthcoming so keep your eyes on the BVARC website.

And the next edition of Brews with BVARC will be held on March 7th at Counter Commons in Bellaire. Check out the info on the club website.

And coming up is the Belton Ham Expo on April 15. Go to the Temple amateur radio club for more info.

And last but not least, the Bike Texas MS150 will be held on April 29th and 30th. Volunteers are always needed so contact me if you would like to help.

73,

N5VCX



20th Anniversary Greater Houston HamFest ARRL TEXAS STATE CONVENTION



Tickets:

Online - \$10
At the Door - \$15
Children 12 &
Under, Scouts,
Military, &
First Reponders
in Uniform - FREE
Tables - \$25
Tailgate - \$5

Guest Speakers

John Stratton, N5US
ARRL West Gulf Division Director
Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH
ARRL Volunteer Monitors Program
Joe Eisenberg, NONEB
CQ Magazine Contributing Editor
Kit Builder Extraordinaire

When:

Friday March 3, 2023
2PM - 8PM
Saturday March 4, 2023
8AM - 3PM

Sponsors/Vendors

- Radioddity
- Signal Stuff
- EPO
- River Oaks Car Stereo
- Arrow Antenna
- The SignMan of Baton Rouge
- Bioenno Power
- DX Engineering
- HamRadio Deluxe
- Heil Sound
- The Easy Way Ham Books
- Mastrant
- Precise RF
- RT Systems

***Door Prizes Every half hour
starting at 9:00am***

Raffle Prizes

Grand Prize - Yaesu FTDX-10
2nd Prize - Yaesu - FT891
3rd Prize - Yaesu - FTM-300DR
Single Ticket - \$5, Five Tickets - \$20

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



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



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

www.HoustonHamfest.org www.HoustonHamfest.org

MINUTES
Board of Directors Meeting
Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club
February 4th, 2023, 9:00 AM Via Videoconference

Board Members Present:

- President – Mike Hardwick – N5VCX
- Vice President – Kori Rahman – WX5KR
- Rec. Secretary – Michael Manciaz – W5SPC
- Treasurer – Dave Ely – N5EKW
- Cor. Secretary – Jeff Greer – W5JEF
- 2 Yr. at Large (A) Director – Anthony Morones – W5LIC
- 2 Yr. at Large (B) Director – Drew Dasher – N1ER
- 1 Yr. at Large Director – Terry Leatherland – K5PGF

Guests Present:

- Eddie Runner – NU5K
- Daphne Rawlinson – K5VQY
- Phillippe Boucaumont – K5BOU
- Ron Litt – K5HM
- Parliamentarian – John Chauvin – K5IZO

Meeting:

1. Call to Order: The President being the Chair called the meeting to order at 9:19 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. Emergency Business: NONE
5. Approval of Agenda: Agenda approved as presented unanimously.
6. Approval of Minutes: Minutes approved as presented unanimously.
7. Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's report was presented to and accepted by the Board.
8. Corresponding Secretary: Nothing to report.
9. Old Business:
 - a. Newsletter:
 - i. Future of the Newsletter – TABLE until April Board of Directors Meeting.
 - ii. January Newsletter was paid for by member as a donation to the club.
 - b. Greater Houston HamFest
 - i. Projections discussed for the outcome of the ham fest.
 - c. Winter Field Day – Report
 - i. 153 Attendance
 - ii. \$242 spent.
 - iii. \$450 – Special Thanks to BVARC member for donation on the shelter.
 - iv. Tower trailer was in attendance. Antenna damaged. \$650 motioned and approved unanimously to replace the antenna.
 - d. February General Meeting
 - i. Mark Janzer will be guest speaker (Museum Ship – Past, Present, Future)
 - e. Committee – Types
 - i. TABLE until March Board of Directors Meeting.
10. New Business:
 - a. March, April, May, June General Meeting
 - i. Ham fest Review possibly.
 - ii. Red Cross possibly
 - iii. Club of Clubs possibly
 - b. Museum Ships
 - i. June 3rd & 4th

- c. Field Day - TABLE until April Board of Directors Meeting
 - i. End of June
 - ii. Find a new location.
 - d. Field Trip Coast Guard Communication Ellington Field
 - i. Will try to set up for a Saturday.
 - ii. Busses will be provided for 40 people.
 - iii. More information will come out at a later date.
 - e. Life Member – TABLED until March Board of Directors Meeting
 - i. Badges
 - ii. A special thank you (Banquet possibly)
11. Next Board of Directors Meeting Date: March 11th, 2023 at 9 AM on Zoom.
12. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 10:22 AM.

Submitted By – Michael Manciaz – W5SPC (Recording Secretary)





River Oaks Car Stereo
Since 1990
4129 Richmond Ave
Houston TX 77027
713-626-7627 -
help@riveroakscarstereo.com
riveroakscarstereo.com

NUSK - Eddie
KB5YTA - Dwayne
KB5OBB - Eddie Jr
KF5RKJ - BLake
WSLIC - Anthony



Field Day *Food*

The BVARC Food Team is gearing up for the 2023 Field Day! We are proud to announce our entire team is back this year! Daphne (**K5VQY**), Scott (**KD5FBA**), Lou Ann and Kelly (**KG5QJE**). We are committed to serving the best Field Day food yet! We need your help to make the food service a huge success this year. *Please fill out the "food" survey.* It will not take too long but will give us valuable information as we plan the menus. The QR code will take you to the survey. Thanks!

73,

The BVARC Food Team



The Radio Hotel Antennas You've Never Heard Of (probably)

Part II

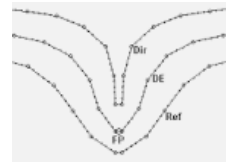
by Rick Hiller -- W5RH

The Radio Hotel column of December 2016 https://bvarc.org/rh/rh_1612.pdf talked about a few seldom referenced antennas. This is part 2 – the antennas I didn't have room to write about. So what did we miss? The Hentenna, the Landstorfer, the Sommer, the Owl, LFA and OP-DES. All are certainly valid, but are rare, or were rare at that time, operational antennas even in the Ham Radio antenna space. All have unique capabilities and are intriguing to learn about, model and build. I encourage you to not only follow the provided links, but to Google the names and do a bit of investigation on your own.

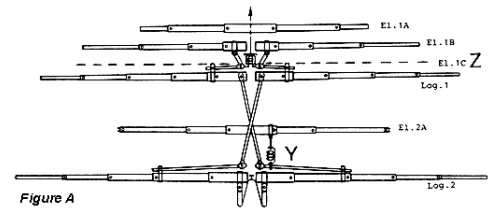
The Hentenna originated in Japan. It is a wire rectangle that is vertically oriented and fed as a slot antenna is -- parallel across the element, not in series, as a normal feed point. Called the “Hen” tenna because it is interesting or unusual. JA hams used it widely on 6 meters because of its' slight gain and wide bandwidth. QST Feb 1982 “Let's Make the Hentenna” described the sky hook. More recently John Portune, W6NBC, modified the design to make it easier to implement. Reference QST August 2022 “The Inverted Hen-Delta 6 Meter Antenna”.



The Landstorfer – not really a specific antenna per se, but an implementation of a theoretical curved element structure conceived in 1976 by Prof. F. M. Landstorfer. It has the characteristic of additional gain. I ran into it in Ham Radio magazine April 1986 “A New Class of Directive Antennas”, as a 3 element parasitic implementation with significantly more gain than a linear 3 element Yagi-Uda.



The Sommer is currently a multi-band parasitic array based on the DJ2UT design – read about the background theory at www.sommerantennas.com. Similar to Butternut verticals, which use the full element length for most bands, the Sommer Beam uses most of the elements for most of the bands...10 thru 40.



The OWL, LFA and Op-DES are antennas designed by Jason Johnson, G0KSC, of **INNOV Antennas** company. Reference the November 2017 Radio Hotel “Recent Trends in Yagi-Uda Designs”

https://bvarc.org/rh/rh_1711.pdf all about his low noise, multi-band, wide bandwidth type of parasitic antennas. He even has convenient design guidance for the DIY ham on his web site. **OWL** is **Optimised Wide-band Low Z**; **LFA** is **Loop Fed Array** and **OP-DES** is **Opposing Phase-Driven Element System**. They all use their name sake techniques for wide bandwidth, lower noise (high front to back ratio designs).



Again, I have run out of room, so I encourage you to dive into the world of esoteric antennas by having fun with your favorite search engine. Enjoy your hobby. GL ES 73 DE W5RH

It's Road Trip Time for the BVARC General Meeting!

One of the most unique places in Houston is a place called TranStar. If you are not familiar with TranStar, it is a unique partnership of representatives from the City of Houston, Harris County, METRO and Texas Department of Transportation who share resources and exchange information under one roof to keep motorists informed, roadways clear and lives safe in the fourth (soon to be the third) most populated city in the United States.

Established in 1993, the Houston TranStar brand is globally recognized for managing southeast Texas' transportation system and functioning as the primary coordination site for state, county and local agencies when responding to incidents and emergencies. And amateur radio is involved with TranStar for communications during those incidents and emergencies.

So, for the March 9th general meeting, BVARC will be given a tour of the facility. The tour starts at 7 pm and will last to approximately 8:30 pm. We need to be at the west side conference room at 6:45 pm for access. If anyone is interested, we can meet at the Canyon Creek Bar and Grill at 5:30 pm for dinner. This will be our second trip to TranStar and everyone really liked it the first time.

So, mark the information down on your calendar.

When – March 9th, 7 pm to 8:30 pm (arrive at 6:45 pm at west conference room entrance)

Where – TranStar, 6922 Katy Road, Houston, 77024

If interested in meeting for dinner:

When – March 9th, 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm

Where – Canyon Creek Bar and Grill, 6603 Westcott, Houston, 77007

See you there!



Ham in a Day Training Class

BVARC will be sponsoring a Ham in a Day training class on March 18th from 8 am to 4 pm at the Bayland Community Center, 6400 Bissonnet, Houston 77074. This is a one-day, instructor guided program that covers the FCC license pool for the Technician amateur license. It is broken into six 45-minute periods with breaks and lunch. An F.C.C. authorized Ham Radio test session immediately follows the study session.

If you pass the examination, you will receive an FCC authorized certification that you have passed and the information will be submitted to the FCC for your new license. You can get on the radio as soon as you receive your call-sign which will take up to 5 days.

The cost for this class is \$55 and this includes the study session, study guide, and the exam fee for the test that follows. Note all fees are non-refundable. You can register at <https://forms.gle/d4D1KDR8pgE3ENrU6> . If you have any questions, please contact Alfred Perez, N5VEV, at perez.alfred@gmail.com.

This is the easiest and fastest way to get a Ham radio license. So, pass the word around to your family and neighbors so they can join this great hobby.

What the Guano??

What do these islands have in common?

Most Wanted DX	Name	Prefix	IOTA#
#4	Baker & Howland Island	KH1	OC-089
#8	Johnston Is	KH3	OC-023
#20	Midway	KH4	OC-030
#23	Kingman Reef & Palmyra Atoll	KH5	OC-085
#23	Jarvis Island	KH5	OC-081
#42	Wake Island	KH9	OC-053
#45	Navassa	KP1	NA-098
#51	Swains Island	KH8/S	OC-200
#252	French Frigate Shoals	KH6	OC-055

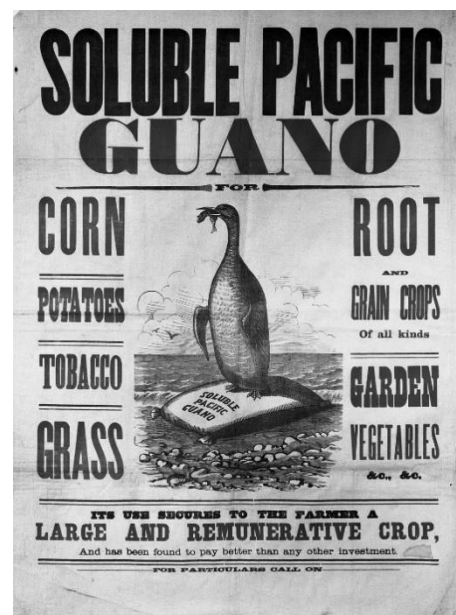
HINT: Even though they are all islands and most have low numbers on the Most Wanted DX list that is not the link. The thing they all have in common is guano, particularly bird poop.

Yes, without our national desire for bird guano some of the world's premier DX locales might never have showed up on the radio spectrum.

In the mid-nineteenth century before the advent of chemical fertilizers, American famers discovered that bird guano was a superior fertilizer compared to commonly used manure. The trade in guano became the foundation of modern farming and inspired the colonization of remote bird islands in many parts of the world. When the word spread about the power of guano, Americans became eager for it, despite high prices.

President Millard Fillmore addressed the matter of guano, stating that it was "the duty of the Government to employ all means properly in its power for the purpose of causing that article to be imported into the country at a reasonable price."

In 1856, the U.S. government passed a dubious piece of legislation called the Guano Islands Act. It allowed any unclaimed or unoccupied islands containing guano to be annexed. The U.S. Navy was directed to back up this claim. Companies could use this protection to explore and claim other islands.



The Celebrated
—BD—
Sea Fowl
GUANO,

stands unrivalled in price and quality.
Its original standard is guaranteed and
Prices Reduced.
It has proved to be THE FERTILIZER
for Corn and Cotton and in comparison to
price is undoubtedly the
CHEAPEST USED.—TRY IT.
Enquire of any one who has used it—you
will get a satisfactory answer.
Testimonials furnished on applica-
tion.
Then send orders and applications forth
with to
R. W. ASKEW, Agent.
Windsor, N. C.
Feb'y, 26-5w

The act was originally intended for Americans to acquire their own guano rich islands and was one of the founding acts of American imperialism. Guano islands were found in the Caribbean, such as Navassa Island, and some in the Pacific, including Baker and Jarvis islands.

During the latter part of the nineteenth century, the guano trade flourished. At one time there were more than 60 islands claimed under the act. The Pacific Guano Company was one of the largest who mined guano from the central pacific islands. During this time, the company flourished. At the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia in 1876, the company had its own pavilion that sang the praises of their products.

By the 1880's the trade in guano declined as cheaper chemical fertilizers came to market. However, guano is still in demand by organic farmers.

Today, only eight islands remain; administered as the US Minor Islands plus one each annexed by American Samoa (Swains Island) and Hawaii (French Frigate Shoals), remain as possessions of the United States (see list above). However, there is still plenty of guano around on 75 meters.

Reporting from the Dark Side
Ron Litt, K5HM



BVARC Rag Chew Net

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

01/25/23, K5LKJ (NCS), AA0ST (Dickinson), W5TKZ, K5LJ, K5TPC, W5VOM, KJ5Y (R)(Bodie), KF5ONT (Conroe), KG5ICR, WB4KTF (Austin), AA5OA (Percy, AR), NV5B, K2MPP. (13 Check-Ins)
Solar Cycle 25: SFI = 172, SN = 104, A = 9, K = 2 / Band Rpt: GOOD

02/01/23, K5LKJ (NCS), K5GPF, W5VOM, W5TKZ, K5TPC, KG5ICR, AA0ST (Dickinson), AA5OA (Percy, AR), K5LJ, W5LIC, KB5YTA (T), KF5ZAC, KJ5Y (R)(Angleton). (13 Check-Ins)
Solar Cycle 25: SFI = 137, SN = 89, A = 9, K = 1 / Band Rpt: FAIR

02/08/23, K5LKJ (NCS), K5JPP, K5TPC, KF5ONT (Conroe), KG5ICR, W5ALW, KB5TWL (St. Martinville, LA), AB5FA (Vinton, LA), AA5OA (Percy, AR), K5LJ, W1BG (Katy), W5VOM, AA0ST (Dickinson), WW5PA, KB5YTA (T), KF5ZAC (T), N0OHL (The Woodlands). (17 Check-Ins)
Solar Cycle 25: SFI = 192, SN = 142, A = 17, K = 3 / Band Rpt: FAIR

02/15/23, K5LKJ (NCS), K5LJ, WW5PA, W5TKZ, K5TPC, W5VOM, KI5MRF/5, AA5OA (Percy, AR), W1BG (Katy), AA0ST (Dickinson), K2MPP, KG5ICR, W5ALW, W5LIC (Bellaire), KB5YTA (T). (16 Check-Ins) Solar Cycle 25: SFI = 174, SN = 140, A = 30, K = 3 / Band Rpt: FAIR

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

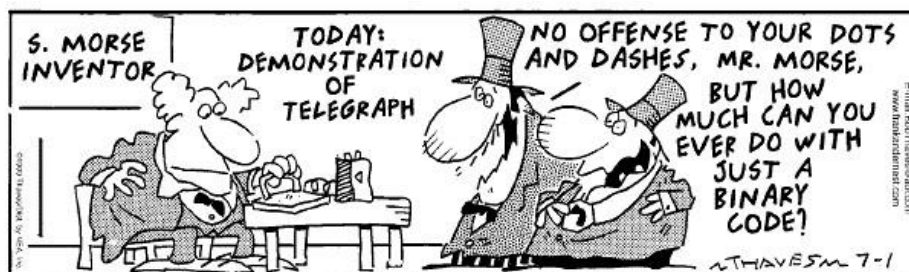
Net conditions have been fair to good this month. Fire up the rig and learn what others are doing and share your experiences. Come join in the conversation each Wednesday evening.

Regards. John K5LKJ



UPCOMING DECISIONS REGARDING THE FUTURE FORMAT OF THE BEACON

Many members have expressed interest in what the BEACON will comprise of in the future. They 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 ham fest 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.



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February VE - FCC TESTING SESSIONS RESULTS

For Saturday, February 4th, we had 9 candidates and conducted 14 tests.

New Licensees:

Fox, J. (Technician)
Leon, A. (Technician)
Walker, A. (Technician)

Upgrades:

KI5ZHG (General)
KI5ZHO (General)
KI5ZHM (General)
N5GGW (Extra)
KI5ZAJ (Extra)
W5AKC (Extra)

VEs in attendance – K5GOL, K5LJ, N1ER, W5LIC, and WX5KR – **THANKS!**

Congratulations to all!

The next BVARC test sessions are **Friday March 3rd at 4:00pm** and **Saturday, March 4th at 9:00am AT THE GREATER HOUSTON HAMFEST**. Pre-registration is required.

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.

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).



2023 Officers:

President (2022-2023)

Michael Hardwick, N5VCX, n5vcx@att.net

Vice President (2023-2024)

Kori Rahman, WX5KR kori113@gmail.com

Recording Secretary (balance of 2022 – 2023)

Mike Manciaz -- W5SPC, michael.manciaz@gmail.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, W5lictx@gmail.com

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

Drew Dasher, N1ER, Adasher18@hotmail.com

1 Year At Large (2023)

Terry Leatherland, K5PGF, K5pgf@yahoo.com

Regularly Scheduled Club Happenings:

General Meeting

Both in person and zoom

Second Thursday each month. 7:00PM

Check www.BVARC.org for more current info.

Board of Directors Meeting

The Saturday before the 2nd Thursday, 9:00 AM

Both in-person and Zoom. CHECK THE WEBSITE as this might change.

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 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 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 for current info.

Greater Houston Simplex Net 4th 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)

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>

04/01/2023 - Baytown Hamfest

Location: Baytown, TX

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: East Side Amateur Radio Service

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

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. 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 2nd 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 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.

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

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**BRAZOS VALLEY
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Greater Houston Hamfest – March 3 & 4, 2023

General Membership Meeting – Transtar Field Trip – March 9, 2023



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