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## Newsletter of the Big Bend Amateur Radio Club, AD5BB

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November, 2011

Alpine, Texas

Bill Baker, W5ATO

Not a lot to report and the holidays are here. For those who get the electronic copy of the newsletter, perhaps you'll see this in time for me to wish you a Happy Thanksgiving! If you get this after Thanksgiving, I hope it was a good one for you.

Saturday after Thanksgiving I will be helping Loyd Overcash, KM5OE with a little tower work at his Ft. Davis QTH in Lympia Crossing. Seems the winds blew off one of the extension tubes of an element on the antenna and the UV has finally baked and dehydrated the electric tape holding the coax to the boom. Since his tower is a 40 footer we will be able to reach the antenna with the Work Force lift we use at Field Day for the CW station.

The Big Bend Ultra Run is coming up in January and repairs are underway on the emergency repeater we need to serve that event. The club approved a request to send the repeater to Kenwood for factory repairs and to purchase two new repeater antennas for spares as we have none on hand. The Kenwood repairs we got word on a few days ago and that bill will be around \$400.00. The antennas are the short white verticals exactly like what we use on the emergency repeater and Twin Sisters now. At a little over \$150.00 each, they are much cheaper and easier to transport and replace for an emergency repair than the larger more expensive 4-bay antennas. Vice President Jim Glasscock, WA5JBG also donated a Ringo type vertical antenna to the club.

We hope to have the emergency repeater back in time for the Ultra Run, and if that happens, Doug Otoupal, N5HYD has spare radios and a spare set of duplexers that we can build into a second portable repeater. The only thing he doesn't have is a 2-meter antenna, thus the purchase of the spares. So if our radio doesn't come back from Kenwood in time, Doug can set up a loaner for us for the Ultra Run and we will have the same capabilities as we did last year. If ours gets back to us in time, then Doug will loan us the equipment to set up a second repeater and link to the emergency repeater which will help us pick up the stations on the far side of the course which have had to do simplex relay traffic procedures in the past.

In other news, we will have Club Officer Elections and our annual Silent Auction at our December 13 meeting.

Finally, in case the next news letter gets out late, a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to one and all!

## THE BARK

### Newsletter of the BBARC

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### BBARC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**December 13, 2011, Tuesday, 7:30 P.M.**  
BBARC MEETING, West Texas National Bank Building  
Program "SILENT AUCTION"